

the norton messenger

January 2025



EDITORIAL

Happy New Year to you all. There's lots of events to look forward to – Burn's Night and a Valentines dance in our newly refurbished village hall among them.

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

Best wishes, Diana

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VILLAGE EVENTS AND NOTICES

The village Hall is up and running again – classes have started !

NORTON VILLAGE HALL CLASSES

(Commencing 2025)

MONDAY	6.00pm - 8.30pm	Jo's Fit4All Diet & Fitness Class
TUESDAY	9.30am - 10.30am	Serenity Yoga
	10.45am - 11.45am	Silver Swans Over-55s Ballet Class
	7.15pm - 9.15pm	Song Circle Ladies' Choir
WEDNESDAY	5.15pm - 6.00pm	Dancing Sparkes Children's Dancing Class
	6.30pm - 7.30pm	Zumba
FRIDAY	9.15am - 10.15am	Zumba

For further details please contact: nortonvhbookings@gmail.com



Norton Salvation Army

Happy New Year from The Salvation Army

Sunday 5 th	Breakfast Church (Enjoy coffee/tea/pastries in a relaxed Worship setting)	10.45am
Sunday 12 th	Morning Worship/Commitment Sunday (Led by: Asst D/C Pam Pitt)	11.00am
Sunday 19 th	United Churches Together/ Christian Unity Week of Prayer (Held at The Salvation Army)	4.00pm
Sunday 26 th	Morning Worship	11.00am
Mondays (School Term Time)	Toddlesong (Children 0-4yrs £1 per family/session)	9.00am – 11.30am
Wednesday 22 nd	United Prayers for week of Prayer for Christian Unity (Held at the Baptist Chapel)	10.30am
Thursday 23 rd	Cameo Lunches (3 Course Meal £6.00)	11.45am – 1.30pm

Our Clothes Bank situated in the car park is available to you for all your unwanted clothes & shoes.
Available 24/7. Please help us to help others.

If you would like to make contact with Norton Salvation Army please e-mail:

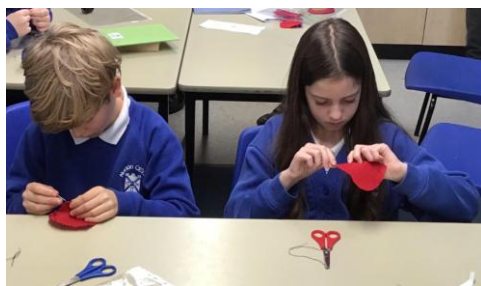
Valerie.Ling@salvationarmy.org.uk OR Peter.Newson@salvationarmy.org.uk

We will be pleased to help you where possible with any questions/queries

A Christian Church and Registered Charity No: 214779, and in Scotland SC09359

The Salvation Army Territorial Headquarters, 101, Newington Causeway, London, SE1 6BN

Please feel free to come & join in with us at any time: You would be very welcome



I write this article with just a few days of the Autumn term remaining. This half term the school received our church school SIAMS inspection, as well as our long-awaited Ofsted inspection 9 days later. We hope to share both inspection reports in the new year, but I can say that the children were a credit to the school during both inspections.

During November we celebrated Anti-bullying week with our Behaviour Ambassadors leading a fantastic assembly on the importance of respect, how to treat others and what to do if you see someone behaving in an unkind way. We also celebrated everyone being unique, different and special by coming to school in odd socks as well as having a disco, kindly organised by FAPONS.

Key Stage 1 and Early Years did a fantastic job of retelling the Christmas Story as they presented 'Baa... Baa... Bethlehem' to the older children, family and friends. There is always something very special about children singing, they do so with such joy and fun. It also amazes me every year how brave and courageous our younger pupils are to perform to such a large audience.

Our choir, Norton Singers, have been very busy over the Christmas period. They performed at the Christmas Activity Morning at the Baptist Church, then some of our children in Year 5 and 6 went to entertain the lovely residents at Stowlangtoft Hall Care Home and they also made an appearance at the Norton Carol Service at the Village Hall.

As part of our enrichment programme for PE, all the children enjoyed a Boxcercise Session. The children were taught the terms jab, hook and uppercut and had great fun demonstrating these to music.

On the topic of PE, children in Key Stage 2 entered Under 9 and Under 11 Dodgeball competitions with other primary schools in the area. Both teams showed honesty and enthusiasm in all their games and were a real credit to our school.

In Rocket Class, Year 4, the children have completed a Design and Technology week where the focus was to make a pop-up book. After designing, making and evaluating their book the children then had the opportunity to share and read their books to Galaxy Class, Year 1, which the children loved.

In Meteor Class, Year 5, the children performed a wonderful class assembly. The songs were entertaining, and the children beautifully captured the learning they had experienced since being in Year 5. The children also had the opportunity to show their clarinet skills in a short assembly led by Mr Kershaw, who is teaching the children. In Star Clas, Reception, the children have been making decorations for Christmas, from weaving stars to decorated Christmas Trees. In Planet Class, Year 2, the children learnt about Advent in their RE lessons. They learnt that Advent meant 'coming'. They looked at the school Advent wreath and learnt that the candles stand for Hope, Peace, Joy and Love.

In Supernova Class, Year 6, the children have created some beautiful 3D poppies as part of their art topic. The children used templates to cut out petal shapes, then edge the petals using blanket stitch. Mrs Sturman teaches the class art and congratulated the children on their perseverance.

Mrs Sparkes





NORTON AND DISTRICT TWINNING ASSOCIATION

ESTABLISHED 1986



Norton & District Twinning Association is twinned with Muids, Normandy France. It has had a very successful partnership for almost 40 years and is open to all in this area. We have families, couples and single members across the local district. All enjoy the social aspect of the association, meeting up for events such as brunches, quizzes, suppers and dances when they can to name a few. We also try to hold the events across the local area, recently we held one of our popular quiz nights at Woolpit and a Coffee and Cakes Morning at Pakenham Water Mill.

For those who wish to travel to France, we visit every other May. Travel is arranged via coach, ferry or tunnel and some members make their own way there to extend their stay. The village of Muids is situated close to the River Seine, with countryside views and is close to attractions such as Rouen, Monet's Garden and Les Andelys to name a few. Local people open their homes to visitors but a stay in paid accommodation is also an option. French speaking is not mandatory but is there for those who would like to use the language. The French hosts usually speak good English. Support from the organising committee is always on hand. There is a warm welcome on arrival, organised excursions for those who wish to participate as well as a soirée evening of good food and entertainment for all.

In 2025, it will be our turn to host here. We are pleased that the friendships between the two areas have flourished and stood the test of time. We believe we may be one of the longest established exchanges. It is also good to know that the association is growing, hence our drive for some new members who would consider hosting. The dates are arrival in the early evening of Wednesday 28th May - and departure in the early morning of Sunday 1st June 2025. We have a variety of ages joining us for the visit. The new members from Muids include those who are retired, couples and families with children of varying ages. As in France, we will be planning trips out and a soirée. We would also aim to offer meet ups with other hosts as we would want everyone to enjoy the experience and feel supported.

If you would like to find out more, we would welcome the chance to talk to you. Please contact us via nortontwinning@gmail.com, text or call 07733 471162, follow us or message us on Facebook and Instagram. Look for Norton & District Twinning Association.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Norton & District Twinning Association

Invite you to a

Valentine's Dance & Supper



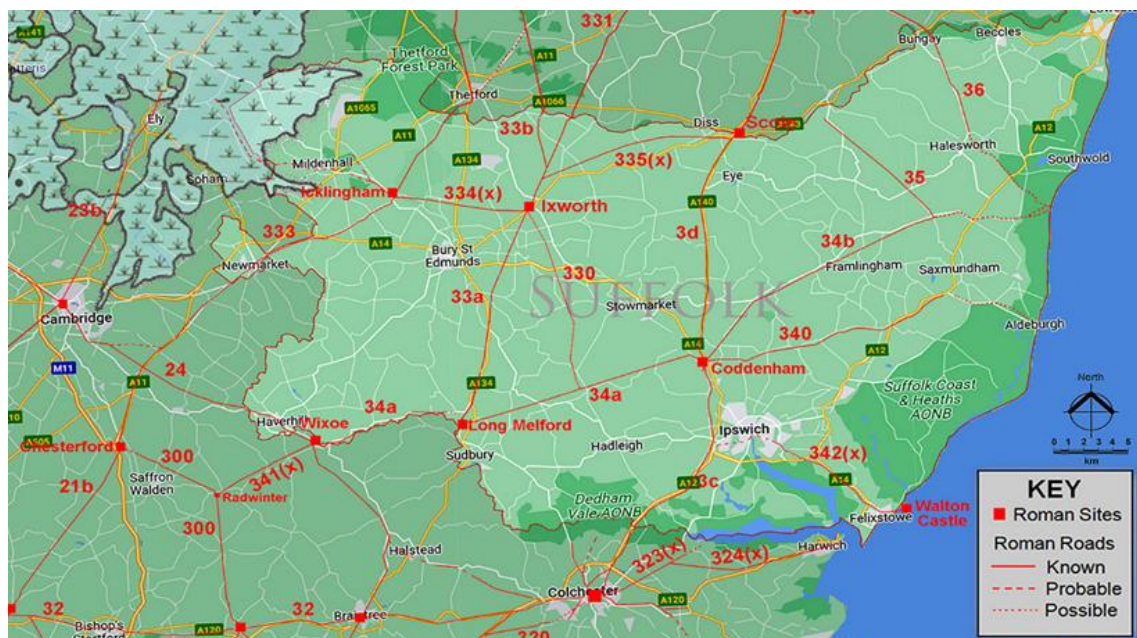


Saturday 15th February 2025
From 7.30pm @ Norton Village Hall
Contact: nortontwinning@gmail.com

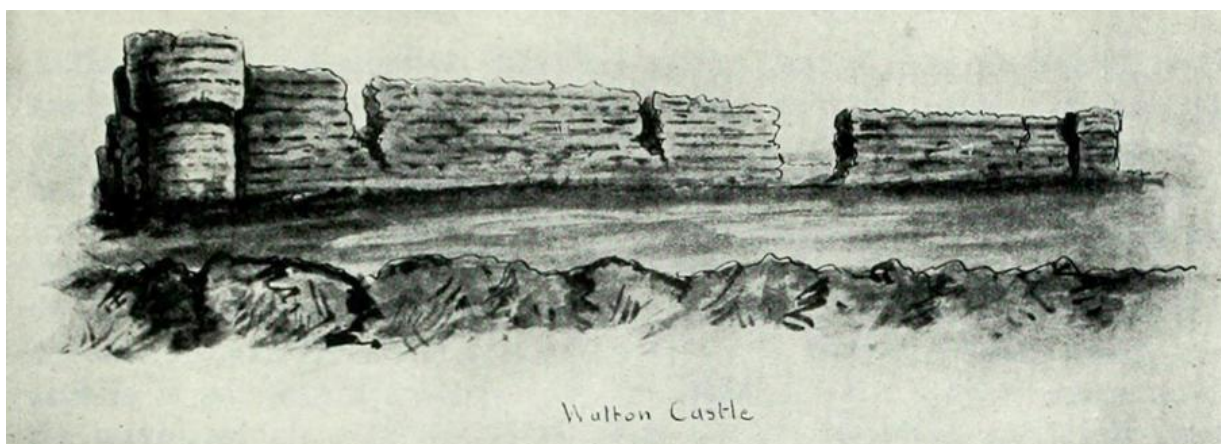
DOWN OUR STREET

Over the next couple of months I thought I would start looking at some of the roads and trackways which can be found in and around our village, although some may be conjectural on my part and by other researchers.

Roman Roads. Little verified evidence exists of the road system in our part of Suffolk apart from major routes and odd scraps of road and trackway which have been validated.



The map above has been compiled by David Ratledge and shows the network of roads, with numbers assigned by Roman Road expert Ivan Margary (1896-1976). However, several roads in Suffolk were unknown to Margary and therefore have no numbers. Ratledge has used LiDAR, both 2D and 3D virtual reality models have been used extensively in appraising the alignment of the roads. This technique has proved an extremely efficient way of detecting linear features such as Roman roads. Imagery derived from this data is often able to show clearly the surviving remains of the road agger, terraces, side ditches and cuttings, often where they cannot be identified easily on the ground through traditional fieldwork. There appear to be major hubs in the road network at Ixworth/Stanton, Coddensham, Long Melford, Wixoe, Icklingham, Scole and of course Colchester. At Walton (Felixstowe) there was a shore fort, now under water near 'The Dip'.



In 1722 the remains were described as: "Tis 100 yards long, five-foot above ground, 12 broad at each end and turned with an angle. It's composed of Pebble and Roman bricks in three courses, all round footsteps of buildings, and several large pieces of Wall cast down upon the Strand by the Seas undermining ye Cliff all which have Roman brick. At low water mark very much of the like is visible some distance in the Sea. There are two entire pillars with Balls, the Cliff is 100-foot high."

In 1963 I took part in my first archaeological dig of part of the Roman settlement at Brackenbury Cliffs near this site.

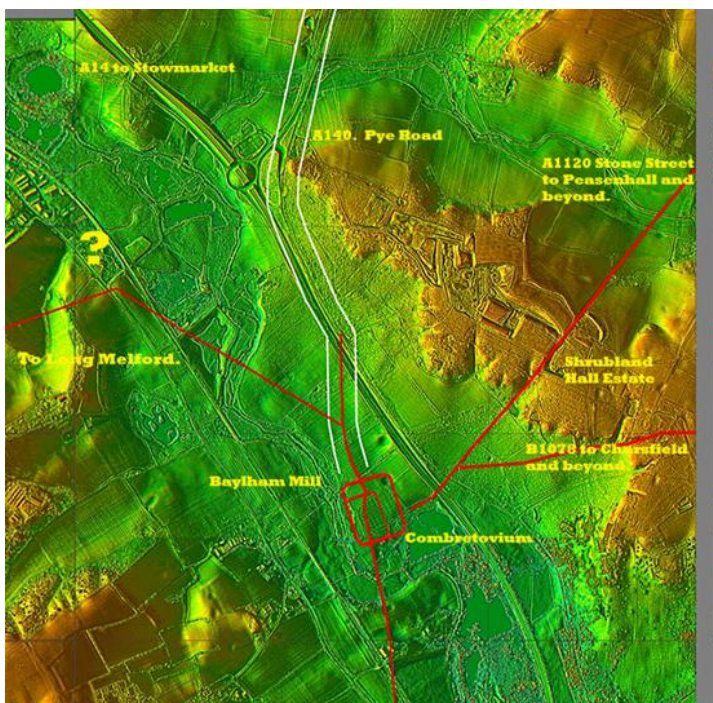
I will now concentrate on Coddendam, Ixworth and Norton in more detail.

Road 3d, 'The Pye Road', was possibly East Anglia's most important route linking Caistor St Edmund to Colchester and London. Caistor, Venta Icenorum, just south of Norwich, was the regional capital of the Icenii Tribe. Today this road is mostly overlain by the Norwich to Ipswich main road, the A140, except in a few instances such as at Yaxley, which is now by-passed.

The name Pye road appears to derive from the Magpie or Pie Inn in Stonham, which was depicted on Ogilby's 1675 road map for Ipswich to Norwich. (Sadly, one of the upright posts of the iconic Grade2 pub sign which spanned the A140, was struck in a hit-and-run accident on 6 Jul 2021 and had to be dismantled. It is thought to have been one of only three such structures in the country.)



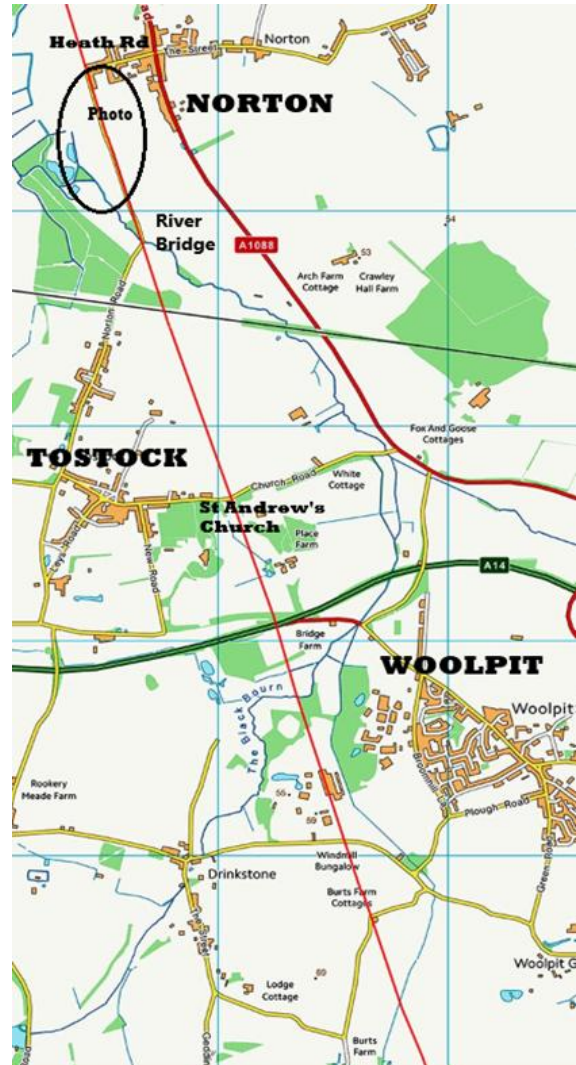
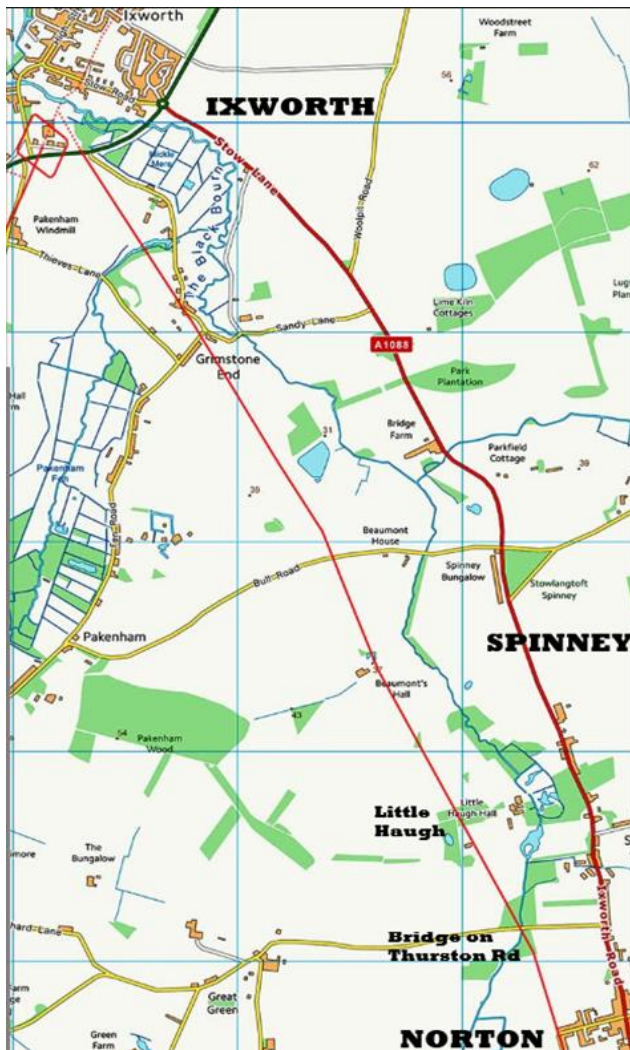
Coddendam (well, actually Combretovium, now the site of Baylham Rare Breeds Farm) has been shown to be one of the major hubs. It was a 60 hectare open settlement with occupation from the late Iron Age and Claudian periods through to the mid-4th century. Study of an aerial photograph taken in 1978 show two superimposed forts of different periods. The larger fort encloses about 14.5 acres (5.8 hectares) and its defences include a triple ditch system is very likely a Claudian campaign fort. The smaller fort of 5.3 acres (2.1 hectares) lies within this and is surrounded by a set of four ditches, in all respects a normal-sized auxiliary fort. I was involved as a volunteer in the rescue dig of 1974 as the new A14 Stowmarket to Claydon section was being constructed.



What I find interesting is the fact that there does not appear to be a direct connection to Sitomagnus (Ixworth). I cannot believe that there was not a more direct link between two major regional forts, especially after the Boudiccan revolt of AD60/61. Personally, I think there must be an undiscovered road leading from the sharp bend on the start of Suffolk's straightest Roman road, to Long Melford. (Where I have put a ?.) My theory is that it ran through Needham Market, possibly to Coombs Ford and then on through Haughley and Woolpit to join with a road from Ixworth, Margery 330, the road from Ixworth to Bildeston. The section from Ixworth to Woolpit is covered on the two maps below. It runs to the west of the A1088 and the Blackbourne which it crosses at the bridge on the road from Norton to Thurston Great Green and again at the bridge on Tostock Road. From here goes in a straight line through St Andrew's church Tostock, Woolpit, Rattlesden and on to Bildeston. A straight line would continue to Colchester.



1. Ixworth (Sitomagnus) 2. Tostock Road in Norton, through to the river bridge, is thought to be part of this Roman Road. 3 & 4. Red line shows line of Roman road as detected on LiDAR.



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

January 2025 Church Services

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

5 th	Epiphany Sunday	8 am Holy Communion (BCP) 10am Family@Church Epiphany Readings Norton: Ephesians 3:1-12, Matthew 2:1-12 Pakenham: Matthew 2:1-12	Norton Pakenham
12 th	Baptism of Christ	9.30am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Morning Worship 11am Family Communion Readings: Tostock & Pakenham: Acts 8:14-17, Luke 3:15-17, 21-22. Gt Ashfield: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22.	Tostock Great Ashfield Pakenham
19 th	2nd Sunday of Epiphany	9:30am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Morning Worship 11am Family Communion 4pm United Service for a week of prayer for Christian unity Readings: Pakenham & Gt Ashfield: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11, John 2:1-11. Norton: John 2:1-11. United service: TBC.	Pakenham Norton Great Ashfield Norton Salvation Army
26 th	3rd Sunday of Epiphany	9.30am TOAST 9.30am Holy Communion (BCP) 11am Morning Worship 11am Family Communion Readings: Hunston & Norton: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a, Luke 4:14-21. Tostock: Luke 4:14-21.	Great Ashfield Hunston Tostock Norton



Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

January 18th- 25th 2025 'Do you believe this?'

The theme of this week of prayer this year is celebrating 700 years since the formation of the Nicene Creed and the beliefs that Christian churches hold in common and bind us together.

You are invited to the following:

Sunday January 19th at 4pm - United Service at Norton Salvation Army Hall Wednesday

22nd January at 10.30am in Norton Baptist Church - a short time of prayer and fellowship.

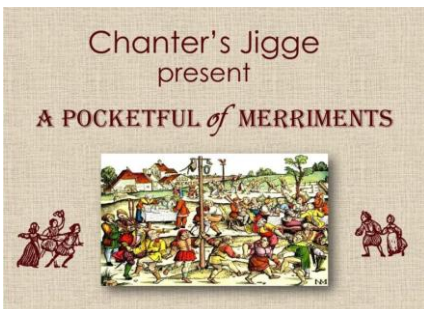
All welcome.

ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP

Andy Peachey's November talk, "Archaeology on Anglia One's Cable Route", told us that up to 100 **archaeologists** from all over Europe at a site near Woodbridge carefully unearthed a 30-metre-long Neolithic wooden trackway and platform, along with numerous other features. Natural water springs, which are still evident in the area, created conditions that led to the incredible preservation of organic materials such as bone and wood. Initial theories suggest the springs could also have been the reason the area was chosen as a special place, over 4,000 years ago.

Beside the platform the skull of an Auroch, an extinct species of large wild cattle, was discovered, and this has been carbon-dated to circa **4,300 BC**. This is significant because, at the time the trackway was built, the skull was already **2,000 years old**, suggesting it was an item of great importance. Substantial numbers of white pebbles, not common in the area, together with a series of white jawbones were also found beside the track, and the positions in which these items were found suggest they were deliberately deposited in a way that had significance to the people at the time. Along the proposed cable route, several more sites were explored where finds included an antler headdress, evidence of different buildings, pieces of pottery (some with trade stamps), and coins.

The archaeologists were in attendance for about one year, and all their finds are now held in the council's archive stores, with the hope that they will be on display for everyone to view at some time in the not-too-distant future.



Our December meeting featured a **festive** mix of musical treats performed by the talented duo "Chanter's Jigge", played on an impressive variety of instruments both ancient and modern.

We learnt that carols originated from medieval times when it was a popular dance form when words appropriate to each season were sung to the tunes but only the tradition of Christmas carols survives to this day. For thousands of years, mid-winter has been a time of merrymaking, and many of the world's religions have mid-winter festivals "to drive the cold winter away". It is a season of celebration and festivity, a time of tradition and mystery and, in this country, we can thank the Tudors and Victorians for many of our Christmas customs and, indeed, our festive music. Throughout the festive season in Tudor times all ranks of society were freed from every-day cares to indulge in feasting, revelry and merry-making. A carnival atmosphere presided at the royal court, with a 12-day festival of entertainments. It is often assumed that Christmas celebrations were invented by the Victorians, but many of our favourite traditions date back much further. Carol singing, present giving, mulled wine and mince pies were just as popular in Tudor times as now, and even Father Christmas and roast turkey have their origins in the Tudor period.

In the Middle Ages, Christmas was preceded by the month-long fast of Advent, during which rich foods and over-indulgence were avoided. However, once Christmas Day came around, if you had the stamina, you were expected to eat, drink, be merry, dress up, play games, and go dancing for 12 days. So, we were royally entertained by singing and the playing of many weird and wonderful instruments such as the hurdy-gurdy (a string instrument played with an internal circular bow), curtal (an early type of bassoon from the Tudors), chalumeau (a single-reed forerunner of the clarinet), raschpfeife (a loud reed instrument used outdoors in the 16th century), two types of bagpipe, and mandola (originated in the 12th century), to name but a few! Amidst all this merry-making, we were fed and watered extremely well with mulled wine, tea/coffee, and a delicious selection of home-made festive treats – with many thanks to all our members who prepared and served these.

Our **next meeting** at Elmswell's Wesley Hall, School Rd (IP30 9EE), 7.30pm on **9th January**, will feature three short talks of our members' own researches, the topics of which will be "*Newmarket*", "*The History of the Co-Op*", and "*An Unusual Early Childhood*". Do join us then for what promises to be an interesting and varied evening of talks in our warm and welcoming refurbished Victorian chapel.

For further information about our History Group, please visit our website – www.elmswell-history.org.uk – or contact our Secretary, on 01359-242601

PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7th October 2024

PRESENT in the Chair: Mrs. S. Hill

Mr. B. Aket, Mr. J Bolus, Prof. K. Jaggard, Mr. R. Lenko, Mr. J. Morgan, Mr. G. Walton, Mr. N. Winstanley,

Mrs. J. Rowland (Clerk)

LGA 1972 s12 para 40

County Councillor A. Mellen

1 member of the public.

APOLOGIES: District Councillors D. Bradbury, H. Richardson.

1.	Welcome and protocol reminder	
2.	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 exceeding £25 – none b) To receive declarations of lobbying for planning matters on the agenda - none c)To receive 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. Mr. Riley enquired about the tubs of concrete rubble at the village Hall. Mr. Walton explained this was to deter travelers in the area accessing the playing field. The bollards will be put back shortly to bar the playing field to vehicles. Mr. Riley commented on the Council minutes reporting on the height of The Old Forge. He felt alterations were required to make this building habitable and to prevent it falling down. Mrs Hill confirmed the height had been checked with Building Control. - Members of the public – to receive comments submitted via email 1.Email from Ashley Ruffles. Mr. Ruffles stated he maintains the verge and trees near his house. Although not his land by maintaining it he gathers a lot of green waste requiring trips to the tip. He enquired about a brown bin free of charge to help with this work. The Council did not feel able to help with this request as a number of people around the village tidy up verges etc. around their properties. Email received concerning footpaths and signage 2.An Email supporting the request for the concrete road to the treatment plant to be designated a footway stated the definitive map showed there had been a footpath linking the lane to Packway Lane. Although it had been walked many times the route was now very overgrown. By adopting the track, clearing it to Packway, it would make a safe route to walk. The Council felt this declaration, plus others received should be submitted to Rights of Way. There was a further request for a few footpath signposts. In the first instance these would be put to Rights of Way for consideration. 3.Email received from Ms. Marshall concerning speeding along Ashfield Road. The Council was unaware of this problem, but there are no sites in Norton Little Green approved by the Police for speedwatch. A SID has been put up for vehicles entering from the straight, and sharp bends sign to warn of the double bends entering and existing NLG. Speedwatch sessions carried out near Church Lane did not suggest any speeding in Ashfield Road. It was felt that once the Stowlangtoft bridge reopens HGVs will probably not use the road as a cut through and will continue along the A1088. There is a problem with the 60mph between the two parts of the village but Cllr Mellen stated this would not be amended or considered until after next May when there could be a change in administration with a differing view on speeding.	Clerk Clerk Clerk
4.	REPORTS FOR INFORMATION –to receive written reports for information Report from County Councillor Andy Mellen Mr. Morgan commented on the number of people affected by the loss of the winter payment. Cllr Mellen felt across Suffolk around 16000 could be affected with most qualifying for pension credit. CAB felt a number of people could claim but do not and they are trying to identify them. Mr. Lenko enquired about the flooding problem. Cllr Mellen stated this was identified last year due to the amount of rainfall and realization that a watercourse was overgrown and needed clearing. Any problem needs to be flagged and reported on the system before action can be taken but unfortunately work is behind. Local action is taking place by homeowners clearing drains etc. Mr.Aket enquired about the Bridge problem and asked who was to blame for the delay as businesses and in particular the garage is suffering. Cllr Mellen stated an engineering problem required redesign as there was a problem with the concrete. This will cause delay by at least 28 days, but he agreed to send an update when known	10

	•Report from District Councillors Harry Richardson and David Bradbury - noted. Mr.Aket commented that the DC does not appear to meet on a regular basis. Councillor Mellen stated this refers to Full Council meetings only and the decision to cancel the Full Council October meeting was due to lack of business. Other department meetings are held monthly or more often.	
5.	MINUTES	
	5.1 To RESOLVE the minutes of the meeting held on 7th October 2024 are a true and correct record. Mr.Lenko proposed, Prof. Jaggard seconded with all in agreement. Mr. Bolus commented that the November Messenger has the August minutes in them and he requested whether these could be sent out earlier. The minutes usually need ratifying before circulation. NB. The minutes in the November messenger were for September.	
6.	COOPTION - To consider cooption to the vacant post – no update	
7.	MATTERS ARISING	
	7.1 UPDATE 2 - A1088 Bridge Farm Bridge, Stowlangtoft. Problems have been discovered with the concrete so further investigation is required. This will mean the road will remain closed until into the New Year. Advanced notification of traffic restrictions - Kiln Lane, Stowlangtoft. No entry signs are to be put up at the northern end of Kiln Lane to reduce two-way traffic using this road, where verges are being damaged.	
	7.2 Parish Tree and Wildflower planting scheme. Mr. Winstanley stated there was no update from Mr. Parmee so he will contact for an update.	Mr. Winstanley
	7.3 MS Town & Parish Liaison Meeting – precis given by Prof. Jaggard.	
	7.4 Remembrance Day – war memorial service. The Dog has agreed to provide coffees after the service.	
	7.5 Venue for future meetings. It was agreed to remain at the Baptist Church.	
8.	PLANNING	
	8.1 PERMISSION GRANTED Pine Trees, Ashfield Road, Norton DC/24/03531. Proposed Cartlodge Extension to side of garage currently under construction (DC/21/00181).	
	8.2 DETERMINED AND APPROVED Three Bridges, Ashfield Gardens, Norton - DC/24/03961 Discharge of Conditions Application for DC/22/06158 - Conditions 5 (Biodiversity Enhancement Layout), 6 (Landscaping Scheme) and 9 (Materials)	
	8.3 GRANTED Land West of Suffolk House, Ixworth Road, Norton - DC/23/03760 Erection of 8 No custom build/self-build dwellings. Application for Outline Planning Permission (Access points to be considered, Landscaping, Layout, Appearance and Scale Reserved) Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended).	
9.	FINANCE	
	9.1 To approve the accounts awaiting payment: Clerk’s salary & expenses £416.00 + £172.82 = £588.82 Street Cleaner £55.20 Tenhats, November Messenger, £363.00 British Legion, poppy wreath £60.00 Legend services, ladder for village hall £193.15 DTS East Ltd, proforma for Norton Village Hall sign £1875.60 Goodlife Landscaping (slide and steps) £4452.00 Norton Baptist, 6 month Hall Hire, £140.00 Tectonic, website subscription, £165.00 Gage Computer Services, Wifi installation, £335.00 Mr.Lenko – Licence, street furniture Cheque no 522577 £160.00 HMRC Cheque no 522578 £117.80 MS Oakes, stage payment, Cheque no522580 £25,982.87 St. Andrews church. upkeep of churchyard. Chq no 522581 £520.00	LGA 1972 s112 LGA 1972 s112 LGA 1972 s142 LGA 1972 s1388 LGA 1972 s133 LGA 1972 s133 Public Health Act 1875 s164 LGA1972 s133 LGA1972 s142 LGA 1972 s133 Highways Act1980s274A LGA 1972 s112 LGA 1972 s133 LGA 1972 s214(6)

	9.2 CAB Stowmarket request for donation. A number of people from the village had used the service, Mr.Aket proposed a donation of £50, seconded by Mr.Lenko and approved by all.	
	9.3 Ixworth Surgery Patients Association donation request. The Council declined.	
	9.4 To receive R&P with reconciliation from Santander and Lloyds, with bank statements. The Councillors RESOLVED to accept.	
	9.5To confirm Recycling credit £608.61 and Neighbourhood Parish Payment October 2024 of £15446.99	
	9.6 Coronation Commemoration noticeboard – on hold	
10	SPEEDWATCH	
	10.1 Update on Speedwatch – Data from large SIDs. Mr. Lenko had brought the required equipment for Councillor Bradbury but as he was unable to attend tonight Mr.Lenko will contact him for his help. Mr. Bolus confirmed he has been able to put the speedwatch data from the coordinator onto a spreadsheet with graphs.	Mr. Lenko
	10.2 Parish Council strategy to combat speeding – gating & Licence. Mr. Lenko confirmed receipt of the street furniture licence from SCC. He agreed to research gating for presentation at full Council. This will need approval from SCC and must be installed by an accredited contractor.	Mr. Lenko
	10.3 Small solar SID for Heath Road. Mr. Lenko presented the SID for Heath Road which he considered too big. He felt this larger SID should be located at the Ixworth end of the village and the small one relocated to Heath Road. This was agreed.	Mr. Lenko
11	VILLAGE HALL	
	11.1 Mr. Walton stated the Hall is nearing completion. The floor repairs seem to be mostly completed at the builder's expense. It is apparent there has been an overspend on numerous items and he requested the Parish Council commits up to £25000 to finish off the project. He presented the list of the various items that had come in as extras, amounting to an overspend of £53887.00, with £28000 being paid from the Hall's reserve fund leaving a £25000 shortfall. The contract with the coffee shop is close to being signed over with an anticipated income to the hall of £7000 a year, plus ticket share for special events in the function area. The CIL team has been approached for additional funding, plus the hall has a promised donation for specific items. Locality funding plus other MSDC budgets are also being investigated. The Clerk expressed concern at approving the additional commitment without investigating that the Council would be viable to the end of the year with 5 months still to go, and have a suitable carry over to the new financial year, as required by audit. She reminded that there will be two payments for the loan this year amounting to £14197.91 plus the general running costs, ie grass cutting, salary, street lights, messenger. She asked how much would be required now and how much could be considered when setting the precept. Mr. Lenko asked whether the amount could be agreed in principle subject to further thought and discussion at the next meeting. Mr. Aket expressed concern at voting to allocate this money without it being specifically specified on the agenda prior to the meeting. The Clerk agreed that this allow Councillors to consider such a request prior to the meeting. Mr. Aket proposed this item is formally put on the agenda for decision next month, but agreed the Council was sympathetic to the needs to finish of the hall refurbishment. This was agreed.	Agenda
12	PLAY AREAS	
	12.1 Play area adjacent to Village Hall Vandalism to the zip wire had been reported. Upon inspection Mr. Lenko was able to rectify the problem. The CCTV does not cover the play area. Mr. Walton reported damage to footpath signs, to a dog bin, and wildlife information signs removed.	
	12.2Play area in Prospect Road – All equipment is OK.	
13	NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN	
	13.1 The Clerk had circulated copies of several local villages Plans for consideration. Mr. Lenko had obtained a contact from Elmswell PC. The firm had contacted the Clerk and would be willing to meet to discuss requirements. This was agreed for 11 th November, 7pm at the Norton Baptist Church.	
14	CORRESPONDENCE	
	14.1 The meeting dates for 2025 circulated. The Clerk stated the suggested date for the APM needed to be amended as it was Easter Monday. This will now be 28 th April.	
	14.2 SALC training sessions: Highways and Neighbourhood Planning - noted	

15	Questions and Comments from Members and suggestions for next meeting	
	15.1 The Clerk reminded that the precept needs to be considered at the December meeting with formal adoption in January for submission before 31 st January.	
	15.2 The Clerk mentioned the recommendation to use Gov.uk for website and emails.	
	15.3 Clerks & Councils Direct – noted.	
16	To confirm the date of next meeting : 2 nd December 2024	
17	There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.04	



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