

Great Ashfield Village News



ISSUE NUMBER 13

SUMMER 2018

Parish Council 2018

Arthur Peake Chairman
408728

Roy Barker Vice Chairman
241045

Nancy Calderbank Responsible
Financial Officer 240445

Bob Fitch Tree Officer 241727

Ian Sadler Broadband 242570

Donia Stick Community Speed
Watch 245813

Robin Watts 240678

Sandra Austin, Parish Clerk
242304
sandra_brown60@hotmail.com

*Minutes of all Parish Council
meetings can be accessed
online at One Suffolk
greatashfield.onesuffolk.net*

Lord Thurlow Hall Committee members

Roy Barker Hon Chairman and
Treasurer *pro tem* 241045

Sue Howes, Hon Secretary
242983

Sue Perkin-Ball, Hall Draw
Organiser 242422

Peggy Elms 408357

Margaret Barrett

*For hall bookings contact
Di Barker 241045*

Parish Council Summary for 2017-18

The council has met seven times this year including specific planning meetings. Over the year ten planning applications were referred by Mid Suffolk (MSDC) and all were approved, albeit with appropriate comments where needed.

We have had to increase the precept for the first time in many years, from £1900 to £2300. Regular expenditure is now at £2150 per annum and last year we spent an additional £1400 on asset repairs and the contribution to the mini SID speed indicator sign. New data protection rules (GDPR) mean that from May we may have to pay for a Data Protection Officer.

The big issues remain highways and for some residents broadband.

Broadband: we were fortunate when Ian Sadler volunteered to join us in October. He has tracked broadband issues and been active in their progress to resolution. At the time of writing new cabinets support much of our village and Ian is trialling a mobile service that may help the 'narrowband' users between the main roads.

Highways: the two issues that arise most are potholes and speeding. The rate of pothole filling seems to have improved lately but vigilance is needed to spot and report issues online.

Community Speed Watch: last year I wrote that we had the poles for the mini SID and were supporting the set-up of Community Speed Watch (CSW) in partnership with Badwell Ash and Long Thurlow. The mini SID has arrived and been deployed to good effect. Thanks again to the *Great Ashfield Playing Field Association*, Roy as *District Councillor* and Jane as *County Councillor* who all made contributions to the cost of the mini SID. Data captured in Long Thurlow has been verified by the police and they are planning to set up enforcement visits there twice a month. Recent data on Elmswell Road was eye opening and we hope similar police action will follow.

In October we were invited to respond to the County's Local Plan which covered housing development, industry, transport etc. A working party met and made 61 responses or comments. Hopefully these reflected the feedback we received from residents.

This year marks the centenary of the end of WWI. We have been pleased to receive background information on Great Ashfield and the lives of people who lived here during WWI (see one of these on page 4, an excerpt from the School Log Book in the run up to the War). If you can help with more stories about people or life in the village at that time, then please contact any councillor.

Finally my thanks to all the Parish Councillors for their time, ideas and effort this year (tree planting, dog bin repair, CSW liaison, broadband meetings, making salt boxes, making the books balance, rodding drains and so much more); also to Sandra for keeping us in order. For a small parish we seem to have punched above our weight this year. We are always happy to see you at any meeting.

Arthur Peake, Chairman

Dates for your diary

Thursday 31 May

Annual Parish meeting, 7.00pm
Parish Council Meeting,
7.30pm, Lord Thurlow Hall
*Village residents are invited
to attend*

Friday 1 June

Village Inn, Lord Thurlow Hall,
7.30pm

Thursdays weekly from 7 June

Serenity yoga with Bethany
Last, Lord Thurlow Hall,
9.30am £6 per session

Thursday 14 June

*WI meeting, Lord Thurlow
Hall, 7.30pm
Acupuncture by Julie Seconde

Friday 6 July

BBQ and pub night, Lord
Thurlow Hall, 7.30pm
*Burgers and sausages from Elm-
swell butchers with a glass of
Pimms or your favourite beer*

Saturday 30 June and Sunday 1 July

Open Gardens (see below)

Thursday 12 July

*WI outing Gooderstone
Water Gardens, Norfolk

Thursday 19 August

*WI garden meeting
*Informal meeting with tea and
cake in a member's garden*

Friday 7 September

Village Inn, Lord Thurlow Hall,
7.30pm

Thursday 27 September

Parish Council meeting, Lord
Thurlow Hall, 7.30pm

**Contact Midge Hawkins WI
President 259399 for further*

OPEN GARDENS

Long Thurlow and Daisy
Green Open Gardens will be
held on 30 June and 1 July in
aid of St Nicholas Hospice,
11am to 5pm both days.
Tickets £5, children free.
There will be 13 gardens to
see along with refreshments,
a raffle, plant sale and local
artists exhibiting their work.

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

A big thank you to Chrissie and Paul Charie for running the Gin Evening on Friday 4 May and for providing their Flint and Hardings gin to sample with various tonics. It was a very enjoyable evening.

Thank you also to the village residents who have volunteered to man the bar for the evening.

The hall is open as 'The Village Inn' on the **FIRST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH (except August and January) 7.30 - 10.30pm**, and everyone is welcome including guests!

We are also looking for new committee members to join our friendly team. At present, we need additional members to join the committee and assist (whatever hours you have) in events to raise funds for further modernisation. There are usually around four meetings a year. If you would like to join, please contact Roy or Di Barker on 241045.

ROUND THE VILLAGE EMAIL

Did you know that the Lord Thurlow Hall operates a Village Noticeboard via email? Currently, there are over 130 email addresses receiving these messages, including residents and friends of the village. It includes what's on in the village; police notices; fraud warnings; church information; district and county council notifications; lost pets; items for sale, or anything else of general interest.

If you have not heard of this, or have not yet provided your address, and would like to receive the messages then please send an email to LordThurlowHall@hotmail.co.uk with the subject as 'New Address for Village Email'. I will then add you to the list and take it that you agree with my holding your details securely, as set out below.

As you probably know, the law around how personal data is collected and stored is changing on 25 May 2018. So if you are already on the mailing list I need your permission to hold your email address securely, so that I can continue to keep you informed about village matters; and also for the Secretary of the Lord Thurlow Hall Committee to store the details too, in case I am unavailable to send out a message. Those on the mailing list have received this notification already and many have replied, saying they wish to remain – but not everyone has. If you wish to keep on receiving the emails, you must let me know by emailing 'yes' to LordThurlowHall@hotmail.co.uk before 25 May. Anyone who does not contact this address by that date must be removed from the list and will no longer hear about local news.

Di Barker

Great Ashfield Church

has lost a monthly service but is filling its building one Sunday a month with the smell of bacon, toast and coffee, the sounds of chatting and weekend newspapers rustling.

TOAST *Together Over A Small Table*

finds the church with ingenious small tables in the pews, the kitchen in full swing and the side pews supporting a village library where you can swap or borrow books and a communal jigsaw. One corner is filled with items to keep children happy and if there is demand, this can become a small Sunday School or '*Sunday's Cool!*' gathering.

So, if you fancy joining us on the fourth Sunday of the month: 27 May, 24 June, 22 July, 26 August and so on, we will be there to welcome you from 09.30 until 11.00am in All Saints' Church, Great Ashfield, IP31 3HE - Car Park up the lane behind the Church.

Serving Our Community with TOAST!

All Saints' Church

Priest in Charge

Revd Katharine Valentine
01359 235095

Monthly pattern of Worship

First Sunday Family@Church,
St Mary's Church, Pakenham
10.00am, breakfast available
from 9.30am

Second Sunday 9.30am Morning
Prayer

Third Sunday 11.00am Family
Communion

Fourth Sunday 9.30am Sunday
morning TOAST (see opposite)

Benefice News

See opposite

Church Wardens

Roy Barker 241045

Raymond Mayhew 240741

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE BENEFICE

You can find details of all church services in our Benefice which covers Pakenham, Norton, Stowlangtoft, Hunston and Great Ashfield, as well as events and local services, in Village and Church News www.vcnews.org.uk

OTHER VILLAGES NEARBY

Since the Benefice reorganisation we no longer receive information about some of our neighbouring villages.

Here are some useful links:

BADWELL ASH

badwellash.onesuffolk.net/badwell-broadsheet

www.badwellashheritage.co.uk

WALSHAM LE WILLOWS

www.walsham-le-willocks.org

ELMSWELL

elmswell.onesuffolk.net/news

PLANT SALE

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Plant Sale and Coffee Morning on what was a very cold and miserable morning. I think we all went home to light the fire!

Thank you to all those who came and supported the event helping to raise the fantastic sum of £940 which will go towards the cost of repairing the roof, which is happening at the moment.

We are at present arranging a garden related event this autumn — watch this space!

Petrina Miles

Dr Ridsdill Smith, Woolpit Health Centre

In the hope of getting fitter and for a good cause, I am cycling over 1000 miles from Land's End to John O'Groats for Bowel and Cancer Research on 10 June 2018. I hope to raise £5000. Please sponsor me if you can on

<https://www.bowelcancerresearch.org/fundraisers/william-smith-ridsdill-bums-on-bikes>

Please send items for the newsletter to the Editor, Judith Constantine village_news@barcham.org.uk

**COPY DATE FOR THE NEXT
ISSUE 12 AUGUST 2018**

Barker's Babberlings

I would like to thank everyone who has helped in keeping the village clean of litter this year. A number of neighbouring villages have had Spring litter picks, but we at Great Ashfield do things differently, we clear our litter all the year around. Thank you to all the litter angels!!

The hedgerows are growing at this time of year. It is the adjacent landowner who has the responsibility to keep them from encroaching onto the highway and footways, making it safe for all users. If anyone needs a man with a tractor and mechanical hedge cutter to trim their hedge, if it is too dangerous to carry out by hand, please contact me and I will give you the number.

We are coming to the time for harvest and dry weather (I hope). Please think before lighting your bonfire. Take into consideration your neighbours, particularly at weekends, when they are relaxing in their gardens and homes, also the direction of the wind, especially if it is heading towards farmland when it is dry during harvest. Please also consider your neighbours when playing loud music especially late at night.

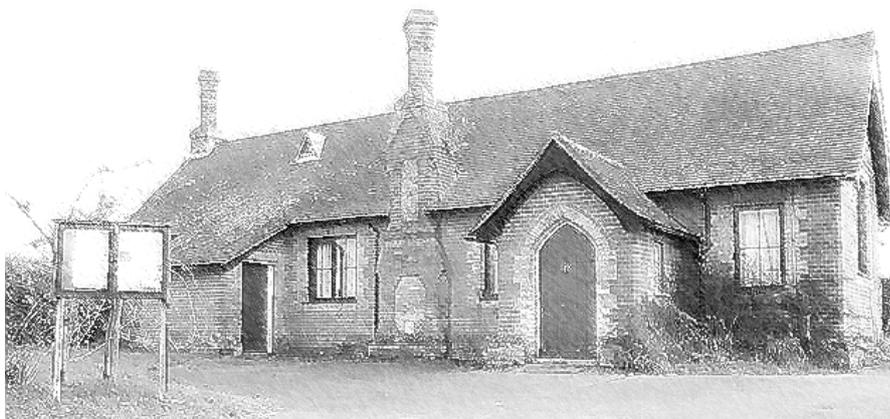
I am here to help if you have any queries.

Roy Barker

roy.barker@midsuffolk.gov.uk

ASHFIELD MAGNA SCHOOL LOG BOOK

The months leading up to the outbreak of War in August 1914



Copy of inspection report of *January 14th 1914* received *June 1914*

The order is satisfactory.

Infant class is well managed and taught.

Upper School

Reading and composition is restricted in scope and of average merit.

Arithmetic, wanting in accuracy, a few children did good work but there is a considerable sector backward in this subject. A definite scheme of work should be drawn up and proper records kept.

The Upper School needs different books to the Lower. The existing practice of copying matter from their books has not helped them retain much information or take much interest on their work hence the poor response to questions in history.

Reading books are old and dilapidated.

Poetry books are needed.

Drawing is moderate.

Nature records are good but need to be kept tidily.

Boys need practice in scale drawing.

Drill should be more smartly performed, little was done to point out faults and improve their work.

Staff are sufficient, classes small so they should be able to keep the children actively interested so that the older and quicker children do not slacken.

F W Thompson HMI

The Headmistress in 1914

On **August 31st 1914** Annie Perring, the Headmistress, resigned. Annie was from Little Chesterford near Saffron Walden. In April 1914 fire broke out there and spread up the High Street destroying the Crown Inn amongst other dwellings. There were no casualties, but only one barrel of beer could be saved! Annie's grandfather had been the publican in 1871. Annie may have left to look after her mother, Emma, aged 83, who lived near the Inn.

[Log book reference number at Suffolk Records Office Bury St Edmunds 2535/1-3]

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