

# ASSIGNMENT

## NEWS



JANUARY &  
FEBRUARY 2025



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# CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS (useful numbers)

If your club or organisation is not listed here and you would like to be included, then please let me know on 01787 210354 or email [bronwenstacey@btinternet.com](mailto:bronwenstacey@btinternet.com)

Allotments Secretary	Karl Debenham <i>alternative: Jenny Cutts</i>	07588 996211 01787 211371
Assington Baby and Toddler Group	Rev Tricia Box	07747 124592
Assington Books, Village Hall (see post office for times)	Michelle Bourner	07954 221773
Assington Farmshop	Maxine Gardiner	01787 211610
Assington Post Office, Village Hall	Mon 1.30-3.30, Wed 9-12	
Boxford CEVC Primary School ( <a href="mailto:office@boxford.suffolk.sch.uk">office@boxford.suffolk.sch.uk</a> )	Head: Emma Lea	01787 210332
Brownies, Boxford	Moira Grant	01787 211513
Church - Treasurer	Ian Clark	01787 211133
Churchwarden	Bronwen Stacey	01787 210354
Community Choir	Nettie Osman	07957 394780
County Councillor ( <a href="mailto:james.finch@suffolk.gov.uk">james.finch@suffolk.gov.uk</a> )	James Finch	01473 264993
District Councillor (Assington)	Lee Parker	07970 196884
Doctors surgery – Sudbury	Hardwicke House	01787 370011
Doctors surgery – Bures	Bures	01787 227529
Floodline 24/7	SCC Flood Management	0345 606 6171
Footpath Wardens	Paul & Cynthia Hollingsworth	01787 211620
Horticultural Society	Karen Wiles	
Member of Parliament ( <a href="mailto:james.cartlidge.mp@parliament.uk">james.cartlidge.mp@parliament.uk</a> )	James Cartlidge	020 7219 4875
Mobile Library - Vicary Estate Junction	Saturday 22nd February	3pm - 3.30pm
Parish Council	Simon Thorogood	01787 227400
<a href="mailto:bronwenstacey@btinternet.com">bronwenstacey@btinternet.com</a>	Bronwen Stacey	01787 210354
<a href="mailto:david.wiles@live.co.uk">david.wiles@live.co.uk</a>	David Wiles	07811 108702
<a href="mailto:tony@howcroft.net">tony@howcroft.net</a>	Tony Howcroft	
<a href="mailto:hwallace58@gmail.com">hwallace58@gmail.com</a>	Helen Wallace	01787 211162
<a href="mailto:i.jordan741@btinternet.com">i.jordan741@btinternet.com</a>	Ian Jordan	
<a href="mailto:andrewpeterhill@hotmail.com">andrewpeterhill@hotmail.com</a>	Andrew Hill	01787 827112
Parish Council - Clerk ( <a href="mailto:assingtonpc@yahoo.com">assingtonpc@yahoo.com</a> )	Christine Hargan	01449 674727
Pub – The Shoulder of Mutton		01787 210334
Stoke by Nayland C of E Primary School ( <a href="mailto:admin@sbn.suffolk.sch.uk">admin@sbn.suffolk.sch.uk</a> )	Head: Mrs Kelly McGrath	01206 262418
Vicar ( <a href="mailto:vicar@parishchurch.co.uk">vicar@parishchurch.co.uk</a> )	The Revd Daniel Whiffin	01787 228292
Village Hall – Bookings	Karen Wiles	07983 002072
Village Hall - Caretaker	Sean Mills	07547 190948
Village Hall - Charity Secretary		
Womens Institute, Boxford ( <a href="mailto:annie-phillips@hotmail.co.uk">annie-phillips@hotmail.co.uk</a> )	Annie Phillips	01787 211729

The Assington News is a community magazine funded primarily through adverts and donations, for which we are always most grateful. **ADVERTS. RATES pa : £20 for 1/8 size page advert, £35 for 1/4 page advert, £60 for 1/2 page advert, £120 for a full page advert. Contact Bob Cowlin 01787 229955 Bank Account details for payments and donations: Account no: 01345159. Sort Code: 30 - 98 - 31. Please make cheques payable to the Assington Association.**

**The ASSINGTON NEWS** NOW IN COLOUR ONLINE at <http://assington.onesuffolk.net/assington-news/>

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# ADVENT WINDOWS

Once again, December brought out some wonderfully creative and artistic Advent Windows in the village. Well done to all the participants, who not only cope with all the usual excitement and panic of the forthcoming Seasonal action, but also decorate their special window for us all to enjoy! See some of them for yourself:





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# VILLAGE NEWS

## CAROL SINGING

The tradition of carol singing around the village must go back at least 20 years and probably a lot longer. Every year I wonder if people will turn up to sing and am always bowled over to find a group assembling outside The Shoulder on which ever evening gets chosen.

This year we met on Wednesday 18 December at 6pm and as usual we headed up the street towards and beyond St Edmund's Way before looping back south. Eventually we got to The Vicary estate and after getting a bit further down The Street ended up at the Cartledge's for wonderful piping hot mulled cider before returning to The Shoulder.

Some people came along to sing for the whole time while others joined and left along the way,

all having a lot of fun singing the familiar carols, each with their particular take on the Christmas story of the birth of Jesus into our world.

Every year we wonder how we might get further along The Street towards and beyond the village hall and hopefully we will have enough singers next year to be able to make up multiple groups to manage that.

We are ever aware that for many people Christmas is a difficult time and I am delighted to report the good people of Assington generously donated £140, that has been sent to the charity Shelter to help those who have nowhere to stay tonight or are at risk of harm or abuse in their home.

Thank you to all who came out to sing and all who were so generous in their giving.

**Simon**

## THE SHANTYFOLK CONCERT

took place in the Village Hall on Saturday, 23rd November, when the hall was decorated with "raggy bunting", which lent a subterranean sea-weedy feel to the atmosphere.



Captain Jack Sparrow greeted folks on their arrival, and they were able to choose which of the sea foam-decorated tables to sit at. We had a full house, about 89 seats taken.

Special lighting effects and colours helped to create the atmosphere for hearing songs of the sea. Despite being "one man down" (and a bottle of rum) owing to illness on the day, the ShantyFolk entertained the audience with a variety of songs, both sad and jolly, intertwined with the historical contexts and backgrounds of the words and the tunes.



A brilliant £865.19 was raised and put towards the church Tower Project.


Huge thanks to all concerned, but especially to the ShantyFolk for their generosity of spirit.




## CHOIR NEWS


We held our annual festive concert at Lavenham Church in December, it was a huge success, raising £1500 to be shared between Sudbury Community Depot, and The Friends Of Hope House. We had 75 singers performing on the night, and they did us proud. At one point the audience was taught harmonies, so there were about 350 voices raising the roof! Many thanks to all that took part, and also to our team of helpers behind-the-scenes, who ushered/decorated/served teas and coffees/helped with ticket sales.


Choir is great fun, and although we strive to get better and better, we don't take ourselves too seriously. We are open to new recruits through January and February, and currently have spaces for two new members in Assington (Thursday eves) and four in Sudbury (Wednesday eves). If you'd like to come and have a go, then please drop me a line via the link below.


 First session free

 No audition needed

 No need to be able to read music (although it is provided for those that do)

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We are an independent, non-franchised pop choir with a combined membership of 90 people across our two groups. We come together to perform as one choir, and raised £2500 for charity last year through our concerts at Bures Music Festival and at Lavenham Church. Performing isn't compulsory, but it's a real buzz!

Drop us a line at [www.happysounds.co.uk](http://www.happysounds.co.uk) to book your free trial and join the fun

Thanks for reading and hope to see you!

**Nettie**



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**BOXFORD & DISTRICT BOWLS CLUB from Roz Mortlock**

To start off, I must take you back to sunnier days and as promised here are the other winners at our Finals Day on 15<sup>th</sup> September. Congratulations to you all. The trophies were presented by Malcolm Grimwood.

**GARY WHITEMAN – Over 60s Singles**



**MIKE BILLINGTON - Men's 2 Wood Single and Club Single**



**PETER NORRIS – The Keith Egglestone's Cup for Most Improved Player**



**GLEN LOE – Men's 4 wood singles**



**ANDY CARR – Handicap Singles**

Now going back not so far to October, our Social Committee organised a very successful Snail Race which took place in Boxford Village Hall. Here is a photo of the final race when you could 'buy' a snail and become the 'owner' for that race. It was all great fun and certainly brightened up a dark and dismal Saturday evening! Excellent food was on offer as well!



The Social Committee also arranged our Christmas Meal at Assington Country Kitchen (The Barn), in December. This was well supported and the food was excellent. Such a shame to hear that The Barn is closing down in February.

Something to look forward to in February will be a Wine Tasting event – so more on this

in the next newsletter.

A huge thank you to our members who are on the Social committee. Your hard work throughout the year is much appreciated.

**THINGS TO DO**

Assington Baby and Toddler Group

Mums, dads, grandparents, carers and childminders living in and around Assington ... bring your little ones to a friendly, accompanied babies and toddlers group in the lovely, airy Village Hall. Thursdays twice a month in termtime, from 9.30-11.00 am, at £3 per family.

Here are the dates up to Easter

13<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> February and 13<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> March

Revd Tricia Box 07747 124592

Come to a **Beetle Drive!**

A fun social activity/game

Free entry

**Coming Soon!**

@ Assington Village Hall

Friends/Families welcome

Score cards & dice provided

A pair of bug antenna for the winner of each game!

Tea, Coffee, Hot Chocolate and cakes available to buy for a donation

Proceeds to the Assington Church Tower Project

**Church Cleaning - help needed, please.**

The cleaning of St Edmund's church has traditionally been undertaken by a group of volunteers from the village; some are regular churchgoers, others are not. However, one or two of our volunteers have had to give up in the past couple of years as they have either moved away from Assington or are no longer able to help us.

If you are willing to assist and can spare just a few hours in one month each year, please call Val on 01787-211133. Thank you.

**'Last Tuesday'**

**Coffee and Chat**

in the Village Hall

The next meeting will be on **Tuesday 25th February** at 10am

**See you there!**

# DECEMBER IN ASSINGTON CHURCH



On Sunday, 1st December, the Church held its Christingle Service, and children were invited to come along early to help decorate the Christmas Tree. There were several little helpers, and they did a wonderful job of filling the gaps at the lower levels of the branches with the bright baubles.

The Christingle Service itself was led by the Rev Tricia Box, along with the Rev Simon White. To help us make our Christingles correctly we had a living illustrative example:



dressed in a voluminous orange T-shirt, tied around the waist with a bright red sash and wearing a large head torch, Hattie did a brilliant job, with her



outstretched arms holding fruit and snack foods. Brock played the support role, standing behind and providing two extra arms .

Following this example, we all made our individual Christingles, and when they were all completed, we stood in an elongated sort of circle, the children's faces brightly lit by the candles, whilst they sang Away In a Manger.



On the evening of Wednesday, 11th December, Anthony Roberts, the Director of Colchester Arts Centre, accompanied by his step-son Jamie, delivered a solo performance of Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" in the softly candle-lit church, to provide a suitable atmosphere. It was a brilliant evening, with 69 people attending the event, and £617.95 was raised towards the church Tower Project.

The Annual Candle-lit Carol and crib service took place at 5pm on Sunday, 22nd of December, providing everyone with the good old sing song of favourite carols,



# PARISH CHURCH NEWS



Saint Edmund  
King & Martyr  
Assington



<https://assingtonchurch.org.uk>

*Letter from Andrew Clift,  
Reader, Bures with  
Assington and  
Little Cornard*



A very warm welcome to February folks, although I'd wager it's probably most peoples' least favourite time of year. The festivities around Christmas are but a distant memory and February is the last month of what always seems to be a long dark winter while we wait for the arrival of spring. Yet, February does bring that hope of warmer days ahead, as the daylight hours reclaim what was taken over by the hours of darkness.

In the Christian calendar the first weekend of February sees the festival of Candlemas which celebrates the light of Christ coming into the world and the darkness fading away. Forty days after Jesus had been born, Joseph and Mary were required to make the journey to the temple in Jerusalem to present the baby Jesus to the Lord. On their way into the temple court they came across an elderly man called Simeon. Simeon had lived a long life. He was righteous, devout and faithful to God but, he was tired. He had witnessed many dark days under Roman rule and longed to see the hope of a brighter future for all. However, there was something rather special about Simeon because he had been given a promise from God. The promise was that he would finally rest in peace when he had seen God's plan of salvation for all, found in the person of Jesus Christ.

So we can only imagine his joy and delight as he takes the infant Jesus in his arms and praises God by saying:

*"Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all people, a light for revelation to all and for glory to your people Israel."*

Unlike the seasons that we live through, The light that Jesus brings into the world does not fade, but shines bright and welcomes you; it is there for all to see and share. Just like our friend Simeon did.

Yours in Christ

**Andrew Clift**

Vicar: Daniel Whiffin 01787 228292  
email: [vicar@parishchurch.co.uk](mailto:vicar@parishchurch.co.uk)  
Associate Priest Rev Simon White 07572 418555  
Reader: Dr John Symons 211534  
Churchwarden: Bronwen Stacey 210354  
Organist: Bronwen Stacey 210354  
Secretary: Emily Cartlidge 07967 724266  
Treasurer: Ian Clark 211133



## FEBRUARY 2025 SERVICES IN ASSINGTON

**2nd FEBRUARY @ 10.30am HOLY COMMUNION**

( 9th February Bures Holy Communion @ 10.30am  
LC Morning Worship @ 10.30am )

**16th FEBRUARY @ 10.30am MORNING WORSHIP**

( 23rd February Bures Morning Worship @ 10.30am  
LC Holy Communion @ 10.30am )

**Wake Up!**  
start Sunday the best way

### Want to be part of something new?

Think church might be good for your family but not sure traditional services are for you?

9:15–10:00 am

First and third Sundays of the month  
St Mary's Bures

Crafts, Lego, pastries and coffee as we learn about Jesus, sing and pray together.

For all ages. Everyone welcome.

### Assington Church TOWER PROJECT



QRCode

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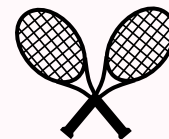
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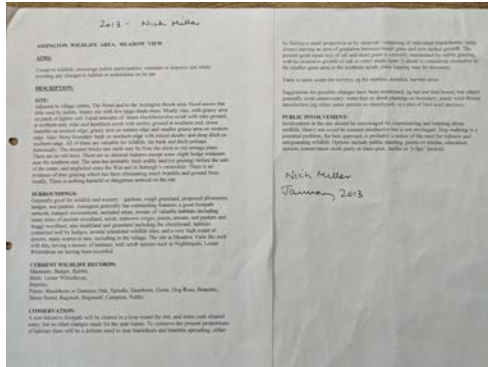
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# ASSINGTON'S NATURE CONSERVATION AREA - A Hidden Gem

1.375 acres of land owned by Babergh District Council lay untouched in the centre of the village for more than 25 years. Used as a handy place for some people to hide their rubbish, the area was rediscovered in 2013 by Stephen King who brought it to the attention of the Parish Council. Nick Miller conducted an initial survey of the flora and fauna, making suggestions as to how the area could be managed. These suggestions were followed when the new allotments were being established; Chris Heseltine, with his farm worker Bob, helped to construct a path through the impenetrable blackthorn scrub to reveal a clearing inside surrounded by mixed rough grass and bramble, with a mature oak, elder and hawthorn thicket.



The rubbish was cleared and in 2014 the Parish Council took out a 20-year lease on the land for a peppercorn rent. Bat boxes and a pole-mounted owl nesting box were installed with the help of the Suffolk Community Barn Owl Project. Brin Edwards and Stephen King have monitored the pole box with ladder access authorised outside the owl breeding season.

In 2016 two pear trees and a walnut tree donated by the Stour Valley Trust were planted inside the area for the benefit of the community, (photo of Stephen King and Ian Stewart) along



with two apples trees planted outside the allotments. Barn owls have successfully used the pole box to produce a brood in certain years, though Stock Doves, Jackdaws and Hornets have each taken their turn.

The circular path is accessible from Meadow Way and must be cut regularly to prevent blackthorn and bramble spreading. Recently the undergrowth has flourished and is in danger of overtaking the land again. The photographs show clearly the advance of the undergrowth.

Stephen King has undertaken the unofficial role of volunteer "warden", organising all the was necessary, since 2014, for which the PC is most grateful and thanks him for all his efforts. He is now throwing in his loppers, and passing the stewardship on to new volunteers.

Now we need your help:

**The Parish Council is seeking new volunteers from the village to maintain the area, to safeguard the site and to encourage residents to experience and learn about wildlife.** Two people have already come forward to monitor and maintain the owl box, which is registered on the British Trust for Ornithology database under the supervision of an accredited agent. The box can only be repaired or cleaned out between November and January each winter. Ladder access is essential; monitoring the box from a distance is the only way to check on successful broods. Brin Edwards is already known to the agent, Mrs Debbie Ping, and Brin has volunteered to continue the monitoring and has enlisted Simon Grimwald to help him with the ladder work for repairs, for which we thank them.

Although the circular path is included in the traditional village footpath cutting scheme, (three times a year) the rain over last year has meant that the undergrowth has "taken over". Blackthorn growth has made the entrance path difficult for the machinery to access it, **and it would be helpful if a 'local' volunteer would be able to walk round armed with secateurs and loppers at least once or twice a month and make the path accessible. It could be combined with other jobs to keep the undergrowth away from the three fruit trees, pruning them if necessary, clearing the blackthorn away from the bench and keep it under control generally in the whole area.** The volunteer(s) would have to live near enough to enable walking there more frequently.

**The circular path in the area also needs strimming regularly** if a small ride-on grasscutter is unavailable, in addition to the formal Parish Council cuts.

The wildlife in the area is varied and **another interested volunteer could spread the word on social media and develop wider participation from the residents.**

**However, please note:**

that dog walking is not encouraged as it would disturb the wildlife. The Conservation Area has turned out to be one of those projects which is successful mainly because so few people know about it, and therefore it has not been over-used or abused (much).





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# FUEL SUPPORT Information:

Help to heat your home:

•Prepayment meters – if you are unable to top up your prepayment meter, Citizens Advice can offer you advice and may be able to refer you for charitable support. You can contact Sudbury & South Suffolk Citizens Advice on 01787 321 400 or visit <https://www.sudburycab.org.uk/>.

•Local Welfare Assistance Scheme – This hardship grant offers help towards the cost of essentials, including energy. Visit the Suffolk County Council website and search for 'Local Welfare Assistance' for more information and to apply.

•Surviving Winter – if you are aged over 66 and not in receipt of Pension Credit you may be able to get extra help if you are struggling to heat your home. The scheme can help with fuel vouchers and support with alternative fuels like oil and LPG. To be eligible your income must be under £20,000 for a single person, or £24,000 for a couple. Contact Sudbury & South Suffolk Citizens Advice to apply.

•Emergency Heating – if you're vulnerable, and your home currently has no heating, Warm Homes Healthy People can provide free emergency heaters and help you find longer term support. Call 03456 037 686 or email [whhp@eastssuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:whhp@eastssuffolk.gov.uk). Subject to availability, not generally available for tenants.

•Bringing down your bills:

•Warm Homes Healthy People Suffolk - offer free efficiency assessments and advice to help you use less energy. If you are a private tenant or homeowner, they can also tell you if you are eligible for energy efficiency grants. For more information visit [www.warmhomessuffolk.org](http://www.warmhomessuffolk.org) or call 03456 037 686.

•National Energy Action - runs a Warm and Safe Homes helpline which advises on ways to reduce energy use and improve efficiency. It also offers support to switch suppliers and advice if you get behind on payments.

Call 0800 304 7159 or visit [www.nea.org.uk](http://www.nea.org.uk).

•Suffolk Centres for Warmth offer local energy and financial inclusion advice to help people stay warm and healthy in their homes. You can find out more and invite them to your local groups and community events by visiting:

[www.babergh.gov.uk/suffolk-centres-for-warmth](http://www.babergh.gov.uk/suffolk-centres-for-warmth)

•Help for off-gas homes:

•Oil loans - Eastern Savings and Loan Credit Union offer interest-free loans of £500 to help spread the upfront cost of oil and LPG. To become a member and apply visit [www.eslcu.co.uk](http://www.eslcu.co.uk) or call 03336 000690. Subject to a manual decision process, affordability and a credit check.

•Oil buying clubs – Bulk buying reduces the cost of your heating oil. Find out if your community has an oil buying club by visiting [www.oil-club.co.uk](http://www.oil-club.co.uk), you can also check the Community Action Suffolk website for details of their scheme [www.communityactionsuffolk.org.uk](http://www.communityactionsuffolk.org.uk) or call 01603 881 888.

•Dealing with energy debt:

•Supplier grants - many energy suppliers have grants to reduce or clear debt if you meet their criteria. Speak to your energy supplier to see what help you can get.

•Citizens Advice - offers advice for energy, debt and more. They can support you to create a budget, negotiate with your supplier and boost your income.

•Benefit entitlement – payments such as Warm Homes Discount, Cold Weather Payments, and Winter Fuel Payments can add up to hundreds of pounds to help you pay your energy bills – but you'll need to be claiming certain benefits to get them. Benefit checks can be done online at [www.gov.uk/benefits-calculators](http://www.gov.uk/benefits-calculators), or by contacting your local Citizens Advice.

•More information

•Visit [www.babergh.gov.uk/energy-fuel-and-utilities](http://www.babergh.gov.uk/energy-fuel-and-utilities) for more resources to help you keep fuel and utility costs down.

•If you would prefer to speak to someone, you can contact our Customer Services team on 0300 123 4 000, option 7 to discuss your situation and find local organisations available to support you.

## ASSINGTON RAINFALL AND TEMPERATURES

Bill Milner (rainfall)

and Bob Cowlin (temperatures)

HISTORY annual rainfall :

2016	599.5	2017	571
2018	559	2019	597
2020	636	2021	582.3
2022	419	2023	662
2024	620		

\*\*\*\*\*

2020	mm	max	min
AUG	109	32°C	4°C
SEP	25.5	27°C	5°C
OCT	110	14°C	2°C
NOV	33	14°C	-4°C
DEC	102.5	10°C	-5°C

\*\*\*\*\*

2021	mm	max	min
JAN	89	10°C	-5.5°C
FEB	34	14°C	-7°C
MAR	26	20°C	-3°C
APR	1	15°C	-5°C
MAY	78.1	25°C	-2.5°C
JUNE	55.2	30°C	+3°C
JULY	72	28°C	7°C
AUG	29	24°C	5°C
SEP	28.5	27°C	3°C
OCT	74.5	18°C	1°C
NOV	27	13°C	-3°C
DEC	68	12°C	-6°C

\*\*\*\*\*

2022	mm	max	min
JAN	7	12°C	-6.5°C
FEB	46	13°C	-4°C
MAR	29	18°C	-2°C
APR	9.5	22°C	-6°C
MAY	37	25°C	0°C
JUNE	33.5	30°C	2°C
JULY	5	36.5°C	6°C
AUG	11.5	32°C	7°C
SEPT	25	25°C	1°C
OCT	63	18°C	0°C
NOV	107.5	14°C	-2°C
DEC	45	10°C	-9.5°C

\*\*\*\*\*

2023	mm	max	min
JAN	41	10°C	-7.5°C
FEB	3	14°C	-7°C
MAR	78	15°C	-6.5°C
APRIL	65	18°C	-2°C
MAY	19	22°C	1°C
JUNE	15.5	30.5°C	6°C
JULY	72.5	28°C	8°C
AUG	65	29°C	4°C
SEP	41.5	30.5°C	5°C
OCT	137	23°C	-2 °C
NOV	61.5	11°C	-7°C
DEC	63	11°C	-3°C

\*\*\*\*\*

2024	mm	max	min
JAN	47	9°C	-7°C
FEB	95	9°C	-1°C
MAR	38	18°C	-4°C
APR	49	18.5°C	-3°C
MAY	83.5	25°C	3°C
JUNE	17.5	28°C	2°C
JULY	84.5	30°C	4°C
AUG	17.01	30.5°C	5°C
SEP	66	26.5°C	-0.5°C
OCT	53.5	19°C	-2°C
NOV	41	14°C	-4°C
DEC	28	10.5°C	-2.5°C

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# ASSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Matters of Interest discussed during a meeting held in Assington village Hall on Monday 25 November 2024 at 7.30pm

■ **Present:** Councillors Simon Thorogood, Andrew Hill, Tony Howcroft, Bronwen Stacey and Helen Wallace

**In attendance:** Cllr James Finch and Christine Hargan (Clerk).

■ **Apologies** for absence

■ Councillors Ian Jordan and David Wiles. DCllr Lee Parker

■ **Declaration of Interests and requests for dispensation** from Councillors:

Cllr Stacey declared an interest in the Churchyard and in the Assington Association.

■ County and District Councillor reports and **public forum Suffolk County Council Report Highlights:**

- Flooding: it is now 12 months since storm Babet and costs to protect the county have increased to £1.5 million. The County Council have requested a further £5 million for additional flood prevention work.
- Local transport fund is closing on 25 November 2024. The council is aware that the traffic flow increasing on the B1508 through Bures, while Newton Green has a major issue on the A134 and are planning a pedestrian crossing.
- A scheme called Lendology is in place to assist with the cost of insulating houses.
- Fostering: a new promotion is in place and a video advertisement has been released.
- The Government has restarted consultation on devolution. There will be two meetings with the Secretary of State on consolidating devolution and the role of local government. The results will be released in a White Paper in early December.
- Bramford to Twinstead went through because insufficient information regarding operational plans had been released. Ed Miliband approved the plan subject to Suffolk County Council approving plans for workflows in advance of work taking place.

**Babergh District Council report:** no report was received from Cllr Parker, therefore the Clerk will forward the District Councillor's report as provided to Chilton Parish Council.

## ■ **Planning:**

### a. **Planning applications:**

2. [DC/24/04896](#) Round House Further Street Assington CO10 5LE Application for Listed Building Consent. To remove all cement render and replace with new lath, therma fleece insulation, 3 coats of lime render and 3 coats of Suffolk pink lime wash.
3. Resolved no comment
4. [DC/24/04895](#) Round House Further Street Assington CO10 5LE Householder Application. To remove all cement render and replace with new lath, therma fleece insulation, 3 coats of lime render and 3 coats of Suffolk pink lime wash.
5. Resolved no comment
  6. [DC/24/05077](#) Dillacks Farm Colchester Road Assington Sudbury Suffolk CO10 5LT

Discharge of Conditions Application for DC/23/05548 - Condition 3 (Solar Array Screening)

Resolved no comment

DC/24/04806 Cotton Wood Barracks Road Assington Sudbury Suffolk CO10 5LP

Application under S73 for the Removal or Variation of a Condition following grant of DC/21/02579 dated 10/09/2024 Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) - Change of use of land to extend an Authorised Treatment Facility (salvage yard); construction of 5no storage/dismantling buildings, and other associated operational works.

The Parish Council is disappointed that it has not seen improvements to working conditions to date. However, it wishes to show goodwill to the company, which clearly needs additional time to undertake the changes recommended by Babergh District Council. As such it **resolved** to support the views of Babergh District Council Environmental Health, and recommend

that an extension of time to 6 months be granted to allow the company to comply with the original conditions as laid down in the Planning Consent with the following caveats:

- Condition 5 ( Hours of Operation)
- Limitations on HGV change to 6 am – 5pm: the Parish Council felt that the proposed change of wording was not helpful. It agrees that a new survey should be provided as 6am is still night time and will quote a passage from the Neighbourhood Plan. Resolved to Object to variation of this condition
- Condition 6 (Vehicle Cutting Operations) A new survey should take place from residents' gardens at a time that is not previously announced to the company and response to be dependent upon the result of the survey, but if this is not completed propose original condition be extended to 6 months.
- Condition 7 (Additional Barriers and Areas of Use): the initial noise assessment was completed with the doors open so it is considered acceptable. The area of objection relates to the new wording which is not measurable and therefore suggests that the time to comply to the original condition be increased to 6 months.
- Condition 8 (Bailing Operations): suggest extension of time to comply with the original condition to 6 months.
- Condition 9 (Waste Loading): suggest extension of time to comply with the original condition to 6 months.
- Condition 10 (Reversing Alarms): this change improve current conditions remove the new wording – no reason why the condition should be changed. Resolved to Object to variation of this condition
- Condition 11 (Noise and Vibration Management Plan): suggest extension of time to comply with the original condition to 6 months.
- Condition 12 (Hours of Construction): The Parish Council supports the request to vary this condition according to the supporting letter.

■ **Finance**The RFO report was acknowledged

■ Reconciliation of accounts against budget Acknowledged

- Propose £500 grant to be paid to the Assington Association towards the production costs of the Assington News and £500 to the PCC towards the cost of maintaining the churchyard. Proposed Chair, seconded Cllr Howcroft, unanimously resolved.
- Budget: Resolved to set the Precept £10,000, which this year will be a small rise due to the variation in the number of people paying a reduced level of council tax. Clerk and Cllr Howcroft to revise the figures on the budget table for discussion at the January meeting.
- Revised Financial Regulations. Further to discussion the Clerk and Cllr Howcroft will fine tune the document for adoption at the January meeting.

## ■ **Review any issues raised for the Licensed Path, Footpaths and APC's Assets**

six half oak barrels planted with roses and herbaceous perennials for £825.00. Clerk to request photographs of oak tubs in situ in similar locations and to gain an alternative quotation for a quantity of wild rose bushes to be planted on each Green.

## ■ **Administration of wildlife area**

The existing administrator wants to step back, and therefore a volunteer is needed. Information to be sought on the duties of this voluntary role which will be featured in the Assington News with a view to attracting another resident to take over. A sign was suggested to promote the location of the allotments and wildlife area but no decision was made.

## ■ **there were no Questions to the Chair**

■ **Meeting dates for next year** 27<sup>th</sup> January, 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 28<sup>th</sup> July, 29<sup>th</sup> September and 24<sup>th</sup> November.  
to be held in Assington Village Hall at 7.30pm.

■ The meeting was closed at 9.13pm

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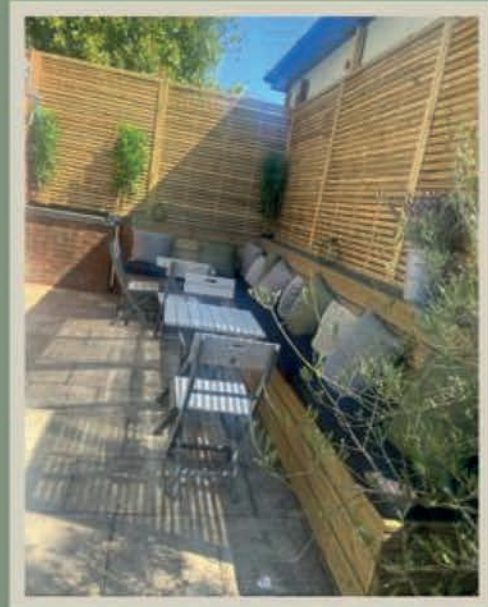


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