

# SUDBROOKE NEWS

JUNE 2025

## STOLEN!

Plant thief on the loose in Sudbrooke ■ See page three



Bird life aplenty in the village, but what's making that call?

■ Find out on pages 12-13

Parish Council stalwarts' 60 years service to come to an end - pages 14-15

June 2025

# EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS

IT was the Annual Parish Meeting last month, so you can discover what the various village groups have been getting up to over the past year, in a plethora of notes from pages five to 10.

The Parish Council also bids farewell to two of its long-standing servants in clerk Christine Myers and treasurer Bridget Solly, who have racked up 60 years' service between them.

I'm sure they will be sorely missed, while for Christine, I'm sure she won't miss one or two of the teething issues we've had with the magazine over the

years, which did nothing for her blood pressure and stress levels, but they are tales for another day. Read what she and Bridget had to say of their long service on pages 14 and 15.

We've also got a feature on birds in the village, with some very rare ones spotted, or rather 'heard' among the trees in Sudbrooke Woods and beyond. Find out more on pages 12-13.

We've also got Sudbrooke Preschool (page 17) news, election results (page 19) and the latest from the Walking Group on page 11. Passing by. Dom

## AUGUST ISSUE – DEADLINE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS: JULY 14

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# THERE'S A PLANT THIEF IN SADBROOKE!

## By Councillor Paul Fido

It saddens me and many others that we appear to have a plant thief in Sudbrooke.

The Northfield Gardening Group have worked tirelessly over the last six months or so to clear the undergrowth and shrubbery to create a tranquil garden for everyone to enjoy on the land between the end of Northfield Avenue and Beresford Drive.

This area has taken a huge amount of time and effort to clear and prepare the ground for planting.

I have used the money that has been obtained through a council grant that was applied for to grow lots of plug plants and nurture them in my greenhouse for the last 10 weeks.

So it's finally mild enough with warmer soil to plant these flowers (Impatiens) outside for the benefit of the wider Sudbrooke Community.

Sadly, I have to say, that some of them didn't even last 24 hours before some selfish, inconsiderate thief decided they would dig some of these plants up and take them away.

In the vain hope that putting this article prominently in the **Sudbrooke News** might give them a sense of

guilt and deter them from further acts of theft, I seek help in our quest to find the perpetrator.

When people give up their valuable time for the benefit of others, it should be appreciated by everyone not abused by inconsiderate selfish individuals who, if they were that poor, could have just asked me and I'd be only too willing to donate any of my 100s of plants that I grow for the benefit of the wider Sudbrooke community.



The scene of  
the crime

Mar/Apr 2025

# PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

With Christine Myers

## ■ CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIR

► At the Annual Meeting of the Parish Councillor Peter Heath was re-elected Chairman and Mrs Tracey Bowman as Vice Chair.

## ■ NEW MEMBER

► The Parish Council welcomes a new member by co-option – Mrs Barbara Dowell. Barbara is a keen member of the Northfield Gardening Group.

## ■ ALLOTMENTS

► A suggestion was that it may be possible to change the use of the Stuart Curtis field from sports to allotments.

However, this is not possible as agreement cannot be reached with the previous landowner for change of use.

In the meantime if any resident knows of a football team who wants a training ground for the summer or indeed wants to start a football team for Sudbrooke please get in touch with the Clerk to the Council.

## ■ LITTER PICK

► Fifteen enthusiastic residents turned out on a sunny Saturday morning at the end of March and collected 25 bags of rubbish.

## ■ GRANT APPLICATION

► Following a notice on Facebook asking for support of additional play equipment 118 'likes' were received within a day! Great!

This has been used as support for the grant application to Awards for All for a

nasketball hoop with football goal, A target trainer (both to be sited within the multi-purpose Sports area, and a monkey challenge climbing wall for siting in the children's play area. The application was made in April and it can take 12 weeks for determination, so it is fingers crossed that the application will be successful!

## ■ NORTHFIELD GARDENING GROUP

► The Group of volunteers have made amazing change to the area of Parish Council land on Northfield Park.

## ■ MINUTES AND AGENDAS

► Minutes and agendas of meetings are available to view on the Parish website - just google Sudbrooke Parish Council.

The website contains much local information along with links to eternal websites, ie West Lindsey District Council for planning applications, Fix My Street – for reporting highways problems and many others. Take a look.

Finally, it is time to say that this is my last report to the **Sudbrooke News** as both Bridget Solly, the Parish Council Treasurer, and myself will leave the employment of Sudbrooke Parish Council at the end of June. Our successor is Louise Clinkscales who will undertake both roles.

Louise is an experienced council clerk and we feel we are leaving Sudbrooke in good hands.

Both Bridget and I have made so many friends in the village over the years we have worked for the Parish Council and we take with us many happy memories.

# SUSBROOKE PRESCHOOL

Find out what's been happening – all the latest news on page 17

May 2025

# ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

## DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF SUDBROOKE HELD AT 7.30pm ON TUESDAY 6 MAY 2025 IN THE VILLAGE HALL, SUDBROOKE

Present: Councillor Mrs Tracey Bowman (Chair), Mrs Christine Myers (Clerk), Mrs Bridget Solly (Treasurer), 15 residents, two members of Witham Valley Access Project

### 1 ■ APPROVAL OF THE NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18 APRIL 2024 TO BE SIGNED AS MINS

► These were approved and signed by the Chair as correct.

### 2 ■ CHAIRMAN'S REPORT ON PARISH COUNCIL ACTIVITIES DURING THE LAST YEAR

*This had been prepared by Councillor Peter Heath and was read out by the Chair....*

► The year seems to have sped by. The downturn in the housing market has caused the cessation of building work on the Parklands estate with many houses unsold. Your Parish Council has continued to liaise with the builders to seek information about some of the support elements of the estate. The provision of a bollard in the unadopted Main Drive and resurfacing of West Drive through the woods being two such cases.

Normal maintenance work within the village continues with your PC looking for value and competence from our contractors. We also continue to pursue the two Section 106 agreements made by developers still outstanding for footpaths around the village.

The Christmas tree event was a great success. This year we decided to give

away the Mulled wine and soft drinks as well as small treats for the children. The weather held and we had a great turnout. The Scouts provided a marquee for the choir and also burners and pans to heat the wine. People were asked to make a small donation to defray costs but the generosity of Sudbrooke residents was wonderful. The raffle went down very well with many giving more than the ticket price so that overall we took £338.00.

Our most recent event was the litter-pick in March. Our residents were able to comb the village and picked up 25 bags of litter.

For the future we have made an application for grant funding to provide a climbing wall and basketball hoop for the Village Hall play area and to get greater use of the multi surface court there. This is a considerable project for £19,280 we hope that we will be successful.

### 3 ■ CLERK'S REPORT

► Although it feels a while ago, the Christmas Tree Switch on event went very well and was enjoyed by a large number of residents.

It was a free event for residents funded by the previous year's donations and raffle. The Parish Council has now bought a marquee for future use so that there will be more protection from the elements when heating up the mulled wine!

May 2025

# ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

## 3 ■ CLERK'S REPORT cont...

Play Equipment - Following a request from some young residents, the Parish Council has submitted a bid to Awards All for funding for a basketball hoop with football goal, a monkey challenge climbing wall and target trainer. The determination of the grant will take about 12 weeks from when it was submitted in April, but I am hopeful that at next year's Parish Meeting it can be reported that the application was successful and it is all in situ!

We are fortunate to have a group of residents in the village who have taken it upon themselves to form a Gardening Group and have worked wonders on a piece of Parish Council owned land in Northfield Park. Grants have been obtained to fund skips, plants etc. and a green wheelie bin from WLDC.

Councillor Paul Fido is continuing to plant flowers and plants around the village, making it more attractive.

The Neighbourhood Plan Review has been worked on during the year and this has now been forwarded to West Lindsey District Council for scrutiny by the Planning Department Officers. Providing there are no points raised by them a Parish Referendum will be held during the year enabling the local electorate to vote for or against the adoption of the Reviewed Neighbourhood Plan.

Taking up on the comments from last year's Parish Meeting, residents raised concerns about safely crossing the A158 at the Scothern Lane junction. The Parish Council pursued this and it has been confirmed by the County Council that the site warrants the installation of a puffin crossing. This will be installed when the funds are available, but the Parish Council will continue to push for

this to be implemented sooner rather than later.

Also raised was the poor surface of the footpath between Elm Drive and Northfield Park (behind the shop to the woods) and that it had gradually become narrower. This has now been cleared by the Witham Drainage Board and our new grounds maintenance contractor and is looking so much better. It is hoped to further landscape the area.

The condition of the road surface on Church Lane continues to be an issue, but there has been some repairs to it recently around Two Corners.

This will be Bridget and myself's last parish meeting with Sudbrooke as we both prepare to leave at the end of June after serving 26 and 34 years respectively. It has been a privilege to work alongside the community of Sudbrooke and we are grateful for the many memories and relationships built over the years.

As we step down we are pleased to hand over our responsibilities to Louise Clinkscales, who we are confident will bring fresh energy and commitment to the role of Clerk/RFO to Sudbrooke Parish Council.

## 4 ■ TREASURER'S REPORT

► The Parish Council received a Precept (Budget) of £34,000 this financial year. The Council have worked hard to ensure that invoices have been paid in a timely manner during the year using BACS payments for all invoices this year, with two being placed on direct debit. All payments have been agreed by members of the Council as per our Standing orders and Financial Regulations.

May 2025

# ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

## 4 ■ TREASURER'S REPORT cont...

This year the Council spent £5,466 on grass cutting and received a contribution of £3,679 from the County Council – our net spend on grass cutting was £1,787.

The Council spent £2,618 on printing and preparing **Sudbrooke News** – a decrease of approximately £1,000 compared with last year. **Sudbrooke News** generated an income of £394 this year from advertising revenue which is considerably down on last year's amount. As in previous years, the Council recognises the importance of the **Sudbrooke News** and continues to support it financially.

The Council had a very successful Christmas Tree event this year, raising £338 on the day.

The Council also received a grant of £3,330 from Groundwork UK which has covered the cost of works done on the Neighbourhood Plan. The Council also received 2 grants for £500 each for the Gardening Project – one from District Councillor Velan and the other from Lincolnshire County Council.

A full copy of the accounts will be available to members of the public in due course as per instructions from the External Auditors.

The Council have lived within their budget this year.

## 5 ■ REPORTS BY LOCAL COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

▶ None received.

## 6 ■ LOCAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTS

### Sudbrooke Village Hall

Mrs Gill Rignall, Secretary

▶ The AGM was held in March. The Committee and officers were-elected as follows:

Officers:

Chair .....	Mrs L Hill
Vice Chair .....	Mrs E Chapman
Bar Manager .....	Mr P Rignall
Secretary .....	Mrs G Rignall,
Treasurer .....	Mr S Hewson
Booking Secretary .....	Mrs S King
Committee members ....	Mrs T Bowman
.....	Mrs I Everitt, Mrs L Hutchinson

Mr D Rowley did not stand for re-election. His service as a committee member and booking secretary was much appreciated. He revised the booking system and did a lot of work on Covid and GDPR Regulations.

A new boiler was installed last August and hall users are benefiting from this.

The hall is used for Preschool, Coffee Club, fitness groups and other private lettings.

The quiz nights continue to be more successful during the winter months. A summer break is being taken this year.

The bar continues to be a valuable source of revenue.

We have a page on the parish website and a Facebook page.

### Coffee Club

Mrs Gill Rignall

▶ Coffee Club meets on the second Friday every month at 10.30am in the Bramham Lounge.

Attendance remains stable at around 14 to 20. We have refreshments, chat, a raffle and occasionally, a speaker.

May 2025

# ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

## 6 ■ LOCAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTS cont...

We had greetings cards and gifts for sale in November.

The coffee mornings are enjoyed by those attending and are attracting new people. It is a chance to meet old friends and make new ones.

### **Sudbrooke Walking Group**

Mr Mike Halliday

► The group was set up in 2007 and has met regularly since then.

Membership has increased over the past year with welcome additions from residents of the Parklands development and elsewhere.

Our numbers fluctuate between eight and 22 walkers with a good age mix. Apart from the benefit of good exercise, members enjoy some splendid views and visit areas of historical interest in Lincolnshire.

We use the parish website, **Sudbrooke News** and email to communicate with members and potential new walkers.

We meet on the first Saturday of every month at the village hall at 9.30am. We aim to walk between six and seven miles and return to Sudbrooke around 1.30pm unless members decide to eat out afterwards at a walk venue or go elsewhere.

The group is run on informal lines with no membership subscriptions and members can volunteer to lead walks if they wish. Everyone is welcome to join in our walks.

### **Northfield Garden Project**

Mrs Barbara Dowell

► In March 2024 the residents of Northfield Avenue approached

Sudbrooke Parish Council to investigate the possibility of tidying up the area of land that borders Northfield Avenue and Broad Dale Close, originally planted 25 years ago by the housing developers, as it had become overgrown with shrubs, weeds, ivy and brambles and generally looked neglected and unloved.

On discovering that there were no plans to tackle any improvements to the area and no funding to support the task, the residents sought permission to take on the area themselves and the Northfield Garden Project began.

We started by clearing the centre bed and because of the sheer volume of waste that needed disposing of, clubbed together to pay for a skip. The group began having regular meetings to review progress, plan the phases and discuss the desired outcome for the area.

We attended regular Parish Council meetings to report on our progress and discuss any issues and in June 2024 were supported by the Parish Council to apply for grant funding from the WLDC community fund. This was successful and has enabled us to continue with the project by paying for the professional services of Arborez to remove the overgrown shrubbery and tidy up some of the trees.

Over the last year we have managed to clear the site completely with the help of two skips, 15 builders' bags and approximately 300 man hours of free enthusiastic labour, to replant it with herbaceous perennials and new shrubs in order to create a more aesthetic, pleasant well-kept corner of the village that improves the biodiversity for the area.

We are continuing to work hard on the garden and have plans to replant the border under the trees with spring

May 2025

# ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

## 6 ■ LOCAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTS cont...

bulbs and reseed the grass. We also plan to reseed and tidy the area adjacent to 12 Northfield Avenue and improve the border hedging along the side of the plot. We intend to continue to seek out appropriate grant funding to enable us to continue.

We would like to thank Paul Fido, Bhikhu Mistry and Chris Myers from the Parish Council for their support and advice, but especially all the residents of Sudbrooke that have stopped for a chat, sent messages of encouragement and support, given water butts and nurtured and donated plants.

It's lovely to know that what we've managed to achieve is appreciated and our efforts to improve and care for our lovely village might inspire others to do the same.

### 25th Lincoln Scout Group

Group Scout Leaders Update and Report

Skip aka Nick Cornwell-Smith

► Since our last AGM in October 2024, all three sections have continued to meet normally without any COVID interruptions. However, we have had a few changes in our leadership team which at times has caused some issues to ensure that we have enough leaders to run the Tuesday evening meetings.

Our membership numbers are nearly back to pre-COVID levels though Scouts are a bit lower. We do operate a waiting list system for those wishing to join, and this is mainly with younger children wishing to join Beavers. However, with the closure of Welton Scout Group in 2023, we are now getting requests to join from a far wider area than before. This means that we are not able to

accept all requests when they reach the age of six due to lack of spaces.

Currently Beavers have two leaders, Ed (Kingfisher) and Cara (Raven) and are assisted by parent volunteers when needed. As both Ed and Cara are student paramedics, they have to carry out work placements which does mean that they are not always available for Tuesday meetings. Usually this can be overcome if both are not on the same shift, or help from our newest volunteer Megan and parents. Megan has joined us as a Cub team member, but was a Beaver leader in another Lincoln group.

The Cub Section is being successfully run with a great programme by Tim (Akela) and Megan with support from Caz and Brian. However, we are now in the position that our Cub leader is due to leave at the end of the summer term. We are therefore desperate to build a new team to run Cubs. If we cannot get a new team, then we may have to take the drastic decision to close Cubs after the summer.

We are now running Scouts with a team of three, myself, Adam and Cara. Our other leader, Tom, is now on his PGCE Course on a Tuesday evening. This is ultimately not sustainable in the long term as all three of us have other roles and I'm not getting any younger. We will need a new Scout leadership team to help lighten the load.

Without our dedicated volunteers, we cannot operate the group. We now have a younger team and hope to keep them for a while, but we do need to consider succession planning. We will need some help in the next couple of years to keep the group going. Ed and Cara will be finishing their university courses in a year's time, and I have indicated that I will be stepping down as Scout leader/group lead volunteer in 2026.

May 2025

# ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

## 6 ■ LOCAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTS cont...

If you are not comfortable working with children (or just want a break from them!), how about joining our Trustee Board. We already have the key roles of chairman, secretary and treasurer in place so we just need a few more members. We meet around three to four times a year to support the running of the sections from a finance and governance perspective. Please feel free to speak to myself or any of the other Trustee Board members, now or later.

You will hear from our treasurer that we are in a reasonable financial position and have been able to meet all costs and our reserves have recovered somewhat from the COVID crisis. The Trustee Board always consider fund raising, the level of termly fees, and other financial issues to ensure that the group remains financially viable.

As we moved into 2025 there were some national changes that may affect how scouting is run, but hopefully not too drastic. We have already taken on board the need to become a Trustee Board. In reality this change does not make much difference to local scouting. Other changes include streamlining the adult appointment process and associated training, sorry - learning, increased use of digital tools and systems. But hopefully as parents and young members you won't notice much difference.

On behalf of the group, I would like to express my thanks to the Trustee Board and my fellow Leaders for their support and help in these difficult times. Also, a thank you to all parents for your support and understanding.

## 7 ■ PRESENTATION BY THE WITHAM VALLEY ACCESS PROJECT

► Two members of the Project gave an interesting presentation of their aim to promote safe walking and cycling in the area and extend and improve the network of paths, footways and cycleways around villages to the East of Lincoln (north of the River Witham).

They stated that they comment on local planning applications which may impact routes and have produced local walk leaflets.

## 8 ■ TO CONSIDER ANY POINTS THAT PARISHIONERS MAY WISH TO MAKE

► A resident asked if the new barriers sited on the Parklands development could either be removed or lifted as they were currently laying on the ground. A request for them to be lifted would be made to the developers.

► A resident suggested that grass cutting on verges could be reduced in order to attract wildlife and also the planting of wildflowers on verges. The Chair stated that she would refer this to a Parish Council meeting for discussion.

► The meeting concluded with light refreshments being served by the clerk and treasurer.

# ELECTION RESULTS

Who won and how many votes did they get? Find out on page 19

# SUDBROOKE WALKING GROUP

With Mike Halliday

## WALKING AROUND THE WOLDS

► Our six-mile circular April walk started from Walesby at the foot of the Wolds. The weather was sunny with clear blue sky.

Our first destination along the Viking Way was the charming village of Claxby. We took our refreshment break on benches outside of St. Mary's Church which retains some nice early English features.

From Claxby we managed a long steep climb up to the hamlet of Normanby le Wold which is the highest settlement in Lincolnshire. It boasts a beautiful ironstone church.

We then made our way along the top of the Wolds to Walesby and were rewarded with the most stunning views across Lincolnshire that I have seen.

In May our circular walk was from Fillingham village to Glentworth using quiet roads and field paths. It was alarming to see so many fields left uncultivated awaiting solar panel installation.

No doubt this makes economic sense for some farmers, but these fields have always been so productive.

The large lake in Fillingham is a treat to see. Some geese had arrived for the season with lots more expected.

► Next walk is Saturday 7 June.

Weather permitting we shall do a six-mile circular walk from Bag Enderby (in Tennyson country) taking in Tetford and Somersby.

There is one steep bridleway to climb otherwise the terrain is fairly flat.

Walkers should meet at our village hall at 9.30am and are advised to wear a waterproof coat, wear suitable footwear and bring a drink and a



# BIRD SONG... BUT WHAT BIRDS LURK IN THE TREES?

## WHAT'S THAT SOUND?

► Sudbrooke Woods, as well as the surrounding fields, are awash with wildlife; and you especially can't fail to hear the chirping and tweeting of various kinds of birds as you walk around the village.

But what are they? Robins and blackbirds, along with wrens, are prominent in the mix, but what else is out there?

I downloaded myself the (free) Merlin app and often have it on, recording all the bird song as I walk my dog, but you may be surprised what the app picks up.

On one particular morning walk (and early mornings are best for this type of thing), my



grey wagtail popped up, a bird you rarely tend to catch sight of.

Interestingly, near Wragby Road, a barn owl was picked up, but I never heard anything, while a greater spotted

woodpecker must have chirped from somewhere as I never heard the rat-a-tat-tat on a nearby tree, the usual sign that one is about.

One thing I have noticed is how audible the blackcaps are – they have a right old chat in the trees,

while I even picked up a long-eared owl one day.

The fields are best for skylarks and yellow-hammers, with the hedges crammed with whitethroats. How many can you hear?



**WREN** \_\_\_\_\_



**BLACKBIRD** \_\_\_\_\_



**GOLDCREST** \_\_\_\_\_



**BLACKCAP** \_\_\_\_\_



**LONG-TAILED TIT** \_\_\_\_\_



**DUNNOCK** \_\_\_\_\_



**CHAFFINCH** \_\_\_\_\_



**STOCK DOVE** \_\_\_\_\_



**GREATER SPOTTED WOODPECKER** \_\_\_\_\_



## OTHER BIRDS HEARD...



**ROBIN** \_\_\_\_\_



**WOOD PIGEON** \_\_\_\_\_



**SONG THRUSH** \_\_\_\_\_



**CHIFFCHAFF** \_\_\_\_\_



**WILLOW WARBLER** \_\_\_\_\_



**BLUE TIT** \_\_\_\_\_



**SPOTTED FLYCATCHER** \_\_\_\_\_



**CARRION CROW** \_\_\_\_\_



**COAL TIT** \_\_\_\_\_



**GREAT TIT** \_\_\_\_\_



GREY WAGTAIL

YELLOWHAMMER

WHITETHROAT

# A FAREWELL TO THE

► After a combined 60 years of working with the Sudbrooke Parish Council, clerk Christine Myers and treasurer Bridget Solly have both decided that now is the time to depart and let someone else carry on their sterling work.

Louise Clinkscales has been given the onerous task of filling their shoes, but before they put their pens and calculator down, we managed to catch up with Christine and Bridget to ask about their long time served with the Parish Council...

## **When did you first start working with the Parish Council?**

**CM:** I started working for Sudbrooke Parish Council in April 1991.

**BS:** I started in April 1999, taking over from Molly Preece.

## **Why did you decide to get involved?**

**CM:** I had been typing up the minutes and letters for the Clerk to Nettleham Parish Council for a few years which gave me an insight into local council work.

I saw an advert on a noticeboard in Nettleham Co-op for a Clerk to Sudbrooke Parish Council, applied, was interviewed... but didn't get the job!

The late Stuart Curtis rang me a few months later and asked if I was still interested as the post was vacant again – another interview and this time I was offered the post on six hours a week to work with a lady appointed as Treasurer (Molly Preece).

The job came with a filing cabinet and that was it – fortunately I had my own typewriter!

**BS:** At the time I was living in Sudbrooke and Rob (my husband) had decided that he was going to apply to become a councillor.

It didn't seem right that both of us were on the council, so when the vacancy for RFO came up, I decided to

apply. I was already working in Lincoln as an accountant for Alstom UK.

## **What were the best and worst parts of the job?**

**CM:** Best parts have been working with a good team of members and an excellent treasurer – having support from the chairmen – a council needs a good leader and I feel Sudbrooke has always been fortunate in that respect.

I won't miss the 50+ emails waiting for me when I return from a holiday or needing to visit the five noticeboards when it is windy and having to wait for it to subside, sometimes over 2/3 days!

**BS:** Best parts have been working with Chris as clerk - she's kept me sane and on the straight and narrow over the years!

Also, working with a good team of councillors has made it a job I've enjoyed doing. I won't miss the emails that come through from Chris when she returns from a holiday! I certainly know when she's back at her desk!

## **Do you have any funny memories of your time with the PC – anything memorable that stands out?**

**CM:** There have been lots of achievements, but not that I can take all the credit for – the village Christmas tree for one – it took a lot of effort by the council members and some residents (and funds/donations) to having an electricity supply put in to ensure that the lighting box for the tree was in the correct location on the verge on Scothern Lane.

Something else memorable was the siting of the Millennium Stone, so called as it was the year 2000, being moved from the front of the Cherry Tree Café (donated to the parish by the then owners) and moved to its current site by the employees and equipment of the Gathering Station on Barfield Lane.

# TWO PC STALWARTS

That was quite a feat. We have had lots of events, sports days, Coronation, Christmas tree lights switch ons – all good fun working together as a team.

The Parish Council has had meals out together at Christmas as a social event.

One amusing memory is of Bridget – she was having her second daughter, and baby conveniently arrived between meetings enabling Bridget and baby to attend the next monthly meeting to give the usual financial report!

**BS:** During Covid – I had to drive from home to Sudbrooke every month with the invoices and cheque book – I'd have to leave everything in a bag on the doorstep of one of the councillors.

They would leave it for 24 hours, then sign everything and repeat the process when they dropped the bag off with the next councillor for signature.

I would then have to return to collect the cheque book ready for the next month – it was quite the process!

We also met in the car park (during Covid), socially distanced, but we could barely hear what anyone was saying as we were so far away from each other and the occasional car would drive past – we soon found other ways to meet!

## How much has the job changed since you started?

**CM:** The job has changed immensely – from having an assigned highways officer who I could ring up and talk to about jobs in the village – now it is all done by email to a generic address, no names, the job might get done or not!

There were no policies apart from standing orders and financial regulations – Sudbrooke PC currently has 30 policies and the list grows.

**BS:** The job has changed considerably since I started. Everything was recorded in a book for the first few years – I had to handwrite the income and expenditure

into a ledger – it was painstaking as I hated making mistakes! When I was able to move everything onto Excel it made things so much easier.

From a finance point of view moving to internet banking has also made a huge difference. It could take a long time to get all the cheques signed at the end of a meeting by two councillors – particularly when there were a lot of payments to be made.

## Will it be a wrench to leave or are you happy you are going?

**CM:** It will be a big change to my life and routine after so long, but I am told 'that you know when the time is right' and I feel that is now.

Time for more holidays and valuable family time with my two grandsons.

Theatre goes to the New Theatre Royal in Lincoln will probably see me in my volunteer role as an usher.

**BS:** Chris and I decided at the same time that we would leave – the time just seemed right.

When I started with the Parish Council, I was newly married, working as an accountant and had no responsibilities.

Now I'm a teacher and one daughter has just graduated from the University of Birmingham and the other has just finished her first year at the University of Leeds.

Time has flown by and it's time to hand the mantle over to someone else.

## Were you ever tempted to join as a councillor yourself or just happy to be on the admin side?

**CM:** I could not have been a member of Sudbrooke Parish Council as I don't live in the parish.

**BS:** I was happy to be RFO – when we moved out of Sudbrooke, I was no longer eligible to be a councillor.

**ON THE**

# **MARKET**

LATEST HOUSE FOR SALE IN SUDBROOKE

## **COURTFIELD CLOSE**



**Price.....£375,000**  
 Bedrooms.....3  
 Bathrooms.....1  
 Council Tax Band..... D



Open Kitchen Diner with Fitted Units & Appliances..... ✓  
 Enclosed South-Facing Rear Garden ..... ✓  
 Spacious Lounge with Wood Burner..... ✓

## **GARAGE DOOR REPAIRS**

*Garage door broken, or difficult to open and close?*

*Lost the key, or require extra security fitting?*

*Most broken door mechanisms can be repaired, and at a much lower cost than fitting a new door.*

*Rotten or damaged timber frames repaired too.*

*Give your tired old door a new lease of life!*

*For a free no obligation quotation, and friendly reliable service*

*Call or text David on 07414 299 066 Mon-Sun 8am -8pm*

*City & Guilds Advanced Craft Certificate tradesman*

# SUDBROOKE PRESCHOOL

## HAVING FUN IN THE SUNSHINE...

► The weeks at Sudbrooke Preschool are flying by and before we know it, it will be the summer holidays.

We are starting preparations to support our little ones with their transition to big school. This has included the return of our Everywhere Bear, Barnaby, who is currently sunning himself in France with one of his preschool friends.

Barnaby is a great way for the children to build on their social skills and friendships by talking about all of his exciting adventures, not to mention enhancing their love of books and mark making skills in Barnaby's diary.

We have all been enjoying the lovely sunshine with lots of outdoor play with the mud kitchen and water tray being the firm favourites, as well as looking for bugs which we are going to explore more after half-term.

The children have even been taking their mark making skills to the outdoors by using chalks to draw on the floor, pencils to draw around shadows and paints to create beautiful daffodil pictures.

Vicky from Minilinguals is still coming in to teach us all Spanish using action songs, sign, and dance which the children all love to join in with.

We are always looking for new committee members and would welcome parents, grandparents and friends of Sudbrooke Preschool, please get in contact if you would be interested in helping us out.

At Sudbrooke

Preschool we now take children from two years to school-leaving age and are open Monday to Thursday from 9am-3pm.

We offer Early Years Government funded places, for children aged nine months-plus, and we are very much a local community preschool. We are the main feeder preschool for Ellison Boulton Primary school. This is great for the children as they develop

long lasting friendships that develop during their time with us.

If you would like to come and have a look around or register a space for your child then please contact us at: [sudbrookepreschool@googlemail.com](mailto:sudbrookepreschool@googlemail.com) or on 01522 754047 during term time.



# THE SUDBROOKE LOCAL

## Sudbrooke Village Hall

# QUIZ NIGHT

**Every second Friday in the month (except November).**

**Doors Open 7.30pm – Quiz starts at 8pm**

**Bar and Prizes**

**Entry £1 per person, maximum of 6 people**

## 2025 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**October 10**

**November 7**

**December 12**

### PAWSITIVE PET SITTING



ESTABLISHED SINCE 2013

- **If you are going on holiday, need to be in hospital or just away for the day.**
- **We are now here exclusively for your cats**
- **We look forward to visiting your feline friends**

**Proprietor**

Jayne Haley

Cherry Dene, 4 Wragby Road,  
Sudbrooke LN2 2QU

Email: [jayne.haley@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jayne.haley@hotmail.co.uk)

Tel: 01522 752629 (Home)

07905 003158 & 07505 148325 (Mobiles)

We will be happy to send you an  
information sheet



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# ELECTION RESULTS

## GREATER LINCOLNSHIRE MAYOR

	Total		Total
Andrea Jenkyns (Reform)	104,133	Marianne Overton (Lincs Ind)	19,911
Rob Waltham (Conservative)	64,585	Sally Horscroft (Green)	15,040
Jason Stockwood (Labour)	30,384	Trevor Young (Liberal Democrats)	13,728
Turnout 29.9%			

## WELTON RURAL

	Total		Total
Jane Smith (Reform UK)	1,165	Paul Swift (Liberal Democrats)	815
Tracey Coulson (Conservative)	830	Calum Watt (Labour)	486
Turnout 35.08%			

### ANDREA JENKYNs COMMENTS...

"We're going to have a Britain where we put British people first, where we put you and your families first. We make sure that you are in front of the queue and you're out at the heart of our policy decisions.

"Now that Reform is in a place of power, we can help start rebuilding Britain inch by inch. Reform will reset Britain to its glorious past.

"We will tackle illegal migration... I say 'no' to putting people in hotels. Tents are good enough for France; they should be good enough for you in Britain."



# SUDBROOKE COFFEE CLUB



Come and join us at Sudbrooke Coffee Club, held on the second Friday of the month at Sudbrooke Village Hall, starts at 10.30. Admission is £1.50, refreshments included. Come and catch up with old friends and make new ones. Thank you. Happy New Year.

## Dates for 2025

June 13

July 11

August 8

September 12

October 10

November 14

December 12

The Veterinary Hospital  
175 Newport  
Lincoln LN1 3DZ

32 Lincoln Road  
Skellingthorpe  
Lincoln LN6 5UU

**V·H**  
VETERINARY  
HOSPITAL

### Mobile Veterinary Clinic

*Monday mornings* at the **Cherry Tree Garden Centre**  
A158 Sudbrooke LN2 2QL

**Book an appointment** for your pet to see our vet in our mobile clinic – or we can arrange a home visit instead

routine appointments    vaccinations    treatment for poorly pets

*fully supported by our bricks and mortar hospital in Lincoln*

**RCVS**  
ACCREDITED  
PRACTICE  
SMALL ANIMAL HOSPITAL

Call us: 01522 800333

find us online: [vhvets.co.uk](http://vhvets.co.uk)  
[f/vhvets.co.uk](http://f/vhvets.co.uk)

# SUDBROOKE VILLAGE HALL

Registered charity no. 504153

Enquiries: [sudbrookevillagehall.bookings@gmail.com](mailto:sudbrookevillagehall.bookings@gmail.com)

Tel: 07549 137082

When leaving a message please allow 48 hours for a response

## AGM ROLL CALL

The AGM was held in March. The Committee and officers were-elected as follows: Chair – Mrs L Hill, Vice Chair – Mrs E Chapman, Bar Manager – Mr P Rignall. Secretary – Mrs G Rignall, Treasurer – Mr S Hewson, Booking Secretary – Mrs S King. Committee members – Mrs T Bowman, Mrs I Everitt and Mrs L Hutchinson.

Mr D Rowley did not stand for re-election. His service was much appreciated.

The monthly quiz is taking a break until October 10, 2025.

The hall continues to be well used by Preschool, fitness groups, meetings and private lettings.

Facilities include a commercial kitchen, a parking area and the adjacent play area, making the hall popular for family and children's parties.

The licensed bar can be requested when booking the hall. The bar manager will help with licensing queries. Cash or card payment taken.

## Sudbrooke Handyman

For household repairs and refurbishment.

These are the sorts of jobs I do;

- Taps fixed or replaced
- Bathroom fixtures re-siliconed (resealed)
- Sticking doors fixed or doors replaced
- Kitchens cabinet doors and drawer fronts replaced
- Sliding wardrobe doors / built-in wardrobes
- Shelves, blinds, curtains fitted
- Pictures and mirrors hung
- Flat-pack furniture assembled
- Plus lots more ...



*No job too small,  
give me a call.*

For a free, no obligation quote or a chat about your needs get in touch with Simon:-

☎ 07923 243 449

✉ [simon@sudbrookehandyman.co.uk](mailto:simon@sudbrookehandyman.co.uk)

📷 @sudbrookehandyman

I am able to take credit / debit card payments.

# THE CHURCH DIARY

With Revd Jess Bellshaw

01522 452835 slbparishoffice@gmail.com

## WELCOMING IN THE MONTH OF JUNE

► Well, here we are in June already! It feels like the village is waking up properly now — gardens are blooming, the days are stretching long into the evening, and there's a real buzz about the place. I don't know about you, but I always find June gives me a bit of a lift.

There's something about the warmth, the colour, and the promise of summer that fills me with fresh hope. Last month we opened the church for the West Lindsey Open Churches weekend, and it was great to welcome so many people into our church buildings.

For us as people of faith, the church isn't just the building – as lovely and special as they are! Church is about the people, and the community we build.

We know that the world is constantly changing, it can sometimes feel like a worrying place to live.

There are conflicts, oppression, injustice and so many areas of real need even within our own communities.

Jesus asked his disciples to share his love with the world. Did you know the parish church here in Sudbrooke is linked with

seven other parish churches in local villages. We share one vicar, one faith, one vision and one aim.

We are a people who love God, seeking to live out faith in our communities.

Churches where hope is real and everyone belongs.

**Be known. Be loved. Belong.**

We want to be a place where all are welcome to come and explore faith, to come and find hope.

Sometimes we find hope in the big moments, but often it's tucked away in the small things – a neighbour's wave across the road, a shared joke with friends, the sight of children running free across the green.

Hope doesn't always shout; sometimes it just gently taps us on the shoulder and reminds us that we are not alone.

So, as we enjoy this beautiful month, let's keep our eyes open for those signs of hope – and maybe even be a little bit of hope for someone else too.

Wishing you sunshine, peace, and plenty of joy this June!

# CHURCH SERVICES DATES FOR LOCAL CHURCHES

### JUNE

Sun 1	Stainton by Langworth	9.15am	Holy Communion
	Greetwell	10.45am	Holy Communion
	Reepham	4pm	Together
Mon 2	Grand Luce	10.30am	Morning Worship
Wed 4	Cherry Willingham	9.30am	Morning Prayer
Sun 8	Barlings	9.30am	Holy Communion
	Cherry Willingham	10.45am	Holy Communion
	Reepham	6pm	Word and Worship
Tue 10	Willow Court	10.30am	Holy Communion

Wed 11	Cherry Willingham	9.30am	Holy Communion
Sun 15	Fiskerton	9.15am	Holy Communion
	Sudbrooke	10.45am	Holy Communion
Mon 16	Grand Luce	10.30am	Holy Communion
Sun 22	Langworth	9.15am	Holy Communion
	Reepham	10.45am	Holy Communion
	Fiskerton	5pm	Healing Prayer Service
Wed 26	Cherry Willingham	9.30am	Holy Communion
Sun 29	Barlings	10am	Holy Communion

# INFORMATION STATION

## WHO, WHERE, WHEN AND WHAT

### EMERGENCY SERVICES

Emergency .....	999
Police.....	101
Fire & Rescue .....	01522 582222
Ambulance Service .....	08450 450422
PSCO Melanie Goodwill .....	07973 847851
PSCO Glenn Patchett.....	07973 846719
Crimestoppers.....	0800 555 111

### WEST LINDSEY DISTRICT COUNCIL

Main number .....	01427 676676
Out-of-hours.....	01427 613960

### ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

Flood line .....	0845 9881188
Incident hotline.....	0800 807060

### LINCS COUNTY COUNCIL

Main number .....	01522 552222
Emergency planning .....	01522 582220

### HEALTH SURGERIES

Nettleham Health Centre .....	01522 751717
Welton Health Centre.....	01673 862232

### SCHOOLS

Sudbrooke Pre-School .....	753938
Ellison Boulters.....	01673 862392
William Farr .....	01673 866900
Cherry Willingham .....	01522 751040
Nettleham Junior School .....	01522 750376
Scothern After-School Club .....	07944 709024

### UTILITY COMPANIES

Electricity Central Networks.....	0800 6783105
Gas - National Grid .....	0800 111999
Anglian Water .....	08457 145145
Severn Trent Water .....	0800 7834444
Yorkshire Water .....	0800 1573553

### NETTLEHAM LIBRARY

Opening Times .....	01522 782010
Tuesday-Friday: 1-5pm	
Saturday: 10am-12noon	

### WHAT'S ON IN SUDBROOKE AND SCOTHERN

25th Lincoln Scouts .....	753689
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### HOME SECURITY ADVICE

### SUDBROOKE PARISH COUNCIL

#### Clerk to the council:

Mrs C M Myers.....07594 295457  
Email: [SudbrookeParishCouncil@gmail.com](mailto:SudbrookeParishCouncil@gmail.com)

#### Chairman:

Peter Heath..... 595061

#### Vice-Chairman:

Tracey Bowman..... 751834

#### Members:

Bhikhu Mistry.....07849 886020  
Simon Crampton .....

07770 449580

Paul Fido .....

07903 895564

Sandra Clayton..... 07367 638561

Cathryn Nicoll .....

[cllrnicoll@gmail.com](mailto:cllrnicoll@gmail.com)

Barbara Dowell .....

[Clrbdowell@gmail.com](mailto:Clrbdowell@gmail.com)

#### Treasurer:

Bridget Solly.....07969 371994

Email: [boakleesk@hotmail.com](mailto:boakleesk@hotmail.com)

#### County Councillor:

Jane Smith.....

Email: [cllrn.smith@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:cllrn.smith@lincolnshire.gov.uk)

#### District Councillor:

Baptiste Velan..... 07551 722022

Email: [cllr.b.velan@west-lindsey.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.b.velan@west-lindsey.gov.uk)

### MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Edward Leigh, 58 Queenway, Gainsborough  
DN21 1SN .....

07587 147116

[edward.leigh.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:edward.leigh.mp@parliament.uk)

### SUDBROOKE VILLAGE HALL HIRE

Sarah King..... 07549 137082  
[sudbrookevillagehall.bookings@gmail.com](mailto:sudbrookevillagehall.bookings@gmail.com)

### CLERGY

Reverend Jess Belshaw.....01522 452835  
[slbparishoffice@gmail.com](mailto:slbparishoffice@gmail.com)  
(Available Tuesday to Sunday)

Gardening Club .....

751818

Dave Cook.....422706

# Electoral divisions in Lincolnshire

- Reform
- Lincolnshire Independents
- Labour
- Conservative
- Independent candidate
- Liberal Democrats

