

**Kelsale-cum-Carlton Parish Council**  
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## **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 6<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2022 AT 7:00PM IN THE MAIN HALL, KELSALE VILLAGE HALL.**

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**Present:** Cllr Alan Revell (Chairman)

Cllr Alan Revell (Chairman) welcomed members of the public and representatives and formally opened the meeting.

### **Public Forum**

#### **1. To receive Apologies for Absence.**

District Councillor Stephen Burroughes, Cllr Ewart, Kelsale village Hall Chair Mary Clarke, David Edgerly Biodiversity Group, Paul Hartley Allotments, Charles Cuthbert Biodiversity Group and the Clerk.

#### **2. Approval of the draft minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021.**

The Chairman made a note that last year's minutes had been available recently on the website to read before approval. The minutes were taken as read and **proposed** by Cllr Galloway for approval, **seconded** by Cllr Buttle. A vote was taken where they were agreed, and they were duly signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.

#### **3. Matters Arising from the Annual Parish Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021.**

There were none.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Dickerson and the Biodiversity Group for organising tonight's presentation. The Biodiversity Group do a lot of work in the village. Cllr Dickerson began the presentation by giving a brief introduction to the work of the Group and introduced the members of the group which started in 2017. An enjoyable power point of photos around the parish accompanied this presentation. This presentation is available on the website.

Cllr Dickerson mentioned Spinney Pocket Park and encouraged anyone who would like to be part of the 'Friends of Spinney Pocket Park' to get in contact. There followed talks by Jerry Bowdrey, Tiggins Meadow owners and Maple Farm owners.

Cllr Revell thanked those who gave reports and the Biodiversity Group for their support to the village.

8.10pm meeting closed for refreshments for 15 minutes.

8.25pm meeting opened.

Cllr Revell commented that there was a change to the agenda. Lord Cranbrook would give his report on behalf of Suffolk Flora Preservation Trust.  
(Full copy of the report attached to the minutes).

#### **4. Chairman's Report**

A verbal report was given by Cllr Alan Revell. (Full copy of the report attached to the minutes).

#### **5. Responsible Finance Officer's Report**

Cllr Revell commented that a copy of the RFO's report would be available on the website. (Full copy of the report attached to the minutes)

#### **6. Reports from Suffolk County Council and Suffolk Coastal District Council Representatives**

##### **Suffolk County Council**

A verbal report was given by County Cllr Smith.

County Cllr Smith opened his report by thanking the Biodiversity Group for a wonderful presentation. The County Council elections were held last year, and we are one year in. Covid – everyone is trying to get back to normal. Some Zoom meetings are still being held. Richard Smith is a regular attendee of the Kelsale-cum-Carlton Parish Council meetings. Reports he give are restricted to the local area. This evening Richard Smith will refer to his Cabinet responsibilities. Freeport East effects Felixstowe Port, which is at capacity. There is to be a development at Hadleigh, which will create many jobs. The Copdock interchange still takes some time to negotiate. There is hoped to be some rail developments that will assist with the freight trains from Felixstowe. This is hoped to be achieved by 2030. The waste plant outside Great Blakenham generates enough power to serve 40,000 homes. The recycling bins have a lot of contamination from other items such as nappies. The Gull Wing bridge is under construction in Lowestoft. The forthcoming celebrations of the Queens Platinum Jubilee are being organised. £500 is being offered to communities to leave a lasting memorial of this event.

The Chairman thanked County Cllr Smith for his report.

##### **Suffolk Coastal District Council**

District Cllr Burroughes had sent his apologies and a written report is available on the website. Stephen Burroughes wished to have a donation from his enabling budget towards the refurbishment of the Village Hall mentioned at the meeting.

#### **7. Reports from Village Organisations**

##### **Kelsale Primary School**

No report received by the Clerk from Kelsale Primary School.

##### **Village Hall Management Committee**

A written report was submitted, due to apologies of the Village Hall Chair the report was read by Cllr Ransome. (Full copy of the report attached to the minutes).

##### **Kelsale PCC**

A written report was submitted, due the Elizabeth Masterton-Smith having to leave, the report was read by Cllr Revell. (Full copy of the report attached to the minutes).

##### **Kelsale Methodist Chapel**

No report had been received by the Clerk from Kelsale Methodist Chapel

##### **IP17 GNS**

A written report was submitted and read by Bryony Peall. (Full copy of the report attached to the minutes).

##### **Kelsale Social Club**

A written report was submitted and read by Cllr Revell. (Full copy of the report is attached to the minutes).

##### **Kelsale Welfare Trust**

No report had been received by the Clerk from the Welfare Trust.

Cllr Galloway read the report from the RFO.

**8. Any other matters arising**

None

There being no further questions or discussion the Chairman thanked the representatives and members of the public for their attendance/reports and formally closed the meeting at 9.25pm.

Signed:.....

Dated:.....

Alan Revell - Chairman

## **APPENDIX – Written Reports given at meeting.**

### **CHAIR'S REPORT FOR APM APRIL 2022**

We held last years APM virtually via Zoom, it is, therefore, really good to be able to hold this year's meeting in the Village Hall, face to face.

Our monthly Parish Council meetings have been held this way for some while now, I know the virus has not gone away, but I think we need to adapt, and try and live with it as best we can, with very much concentrating on protecting the most vulnerable. Bearing this in mind, it is hoped that anyone wishing to join a meeting virtually, in the future, will now be able to do so, East Suffolk Council are helping with the technology to achieve this. My thanks to Stephen Burroughs for his help.

Planning issues have been, and will continue to be, one of the main items the PC deals with. Sizewell C is still taking up a lot our time. My thanks again to Edwina and Ian Galloway's massive contribution to our Parish's response, in my opinion, without their help, our feedback would not have been anywhere near as comprehensive as it has, a lot of very positive comments have been received from all quarters. Closer to home, we have been looking at the application to increase the size of the Carlton Park Industrial Estate. There are many concerns with Parishioners, who feel that the larger development will have a considerable detrimental impact on many aspects. The PC has taken these concerns 'onboard' and have conveyed them in the strongest terms possible to the East Suffolk planning authorities.

After a forced break the Bonfire and Firework party went ahead last November, and was a very successful and enjoyable event, we will of course look forwards to it again this year.

Last November it was our turn to host the annual Remembrance Sunday parade and service, we were pleased to welcome the Royal British Legion Band, veterans, and representatives of many organisations. After the service, on what was to be a fine day, refreshments were provided by the team from the village hall.

As we all know, we are approaching the Queens Platinum Jubilee. To celebrate this important milestone, I am pleased to report that the village will hosting an event on the 2<sup>nd</sup> June. If you are able, please support it, it will be a very good day. My thanks to the team who are working very hard to put this together. To also mention, a tree has been planted on the Recreation Ground to mark the Jubilee as well.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my colleagues who serve on the PC, for their dedication and work they do for our parish, during which, has been a very difficult time, and also Marie, our Clerk.

Equally important to our village, are the numerous other people who help, with various functions, and all sorts of other things that go on throughout the year, and very importantly the Trustees of our Village Hall, who are doing a sterling job, arranging for its various stages of refurbishment, to all these people I convey my sincere thanks.

That concludes my report, apologies for any omissions, it is difficult to cover the immense work that your PC does for our village, in this report alone.

I would now like to hand over to Mr Keith Dickerson, who is going to tell you about our Neighbourhood Plan.

Thank you  
Alan Revell  
6 April 2022

## **Responsible Financial Officer Report 2022**

- The balance carried forward as at the 31st March 2022 was £59,953.64. This includes earmarked funds of £43,957.11.
- It was agreed that the Parish precept should be raised in line with inflation for the financial year of 2022/23 to manage ongoing increasing costs; as a result, a request was made of £22,324.00. This is an increase of £824 from the last request.
- As part of the statutory audit requirement the accounts of 2020/21 were submitted to SALC for the annual internal audit. The internal auditor's report was received ahead of the submission to the External Auditor (PKF Littlejohn), any recommendations have been noted and actioned. All the copies of the reports can be found on the website. The 2021/22 accounts will be submitted to SALC shortly.
- The Parish Council received CIL money totaling £3,304.87. This money has been earmarked for certain things including the improvements to be undertaken at the Village Hall. These items have been chosen by residents of the village using a questionnaire which was circulated to all the households.
- The Parish Council has had some expenditure since the last Annual Parish Meeting, the removal of the rubber safety matting from the recreation ground, the new play equipment, which was paid for by funding from East Suffolk Council. In addition to this there is the everyday expenses such as grass cutting, play equipment maintenance, car park maintenance, Community News newsletter. The Parish Council has been able to obtain some advertising revenue for the website and the newsletter.
- The Parish Council received funding and donations towards the Village Hall refurbishment, the Christmas Tree.....

### **Reports**

There will be no reports from the Kelsale Arts Club or the Melody Makers as they are no longer running.

## **District Councillor Stephen Burroughes.**

### **EAST SUFFOLK COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

#### **Cllr Stephen Burroughes – April 2022**

- **COUNCIL TAX £150 ENERGY REBATE**

Households in Council Tax band A to D are likely to receive a £150 Council Tax rebate from the Government to help towards the cost of living now that gas and electricity prices are going up. Eligible households already paying by direct debit should receive a one-off payment straight into their bank account from us in late April or early May and do not need to do anything. Households not paying by direct debit will need to claim the rebate which may take longer. We will contact those household to let them know how to claim. Empty homes and second homes will not get the rebate.

See more information at [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/features/council-tax-150-energy-rebate/](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/features/council-tax-150-energy-rebate/)



- **FELIXSTOWE TRIATHLON AWARDED NATIONAL RECOGNITION**



Felixstowe Triathlon has been named Large Event of the Year at the 2022 HUUB Triathlon England Awards – after already having received the honour for the East Region.

The second annual Felixstowe Triathlon is scheduled to take part just three weeks after the Commonwealth Games close this summer – and entries are still open for the event on Sunday 28 August.

People can find more and sign up at [www.felixstowetriathlon.uk/](http://www.felixstowetriathlon.uk/)

- **INCREDIBLE INTEREST SHOWN IN ‘EASTERN EDGE’ HUTS**

A huge number of enquiries have been received from people interested in purchasing one of the contemporary beach huts that are being built on Lowestoft’s seafront. The sale of a number of beach huts is being jointly managed by agents Paul Hubbard and Steel & Co. Those who have already formally expressed an interest in buying one of the Eastern Edge huts will be contacted and provide with pre-sales information over the next few weeks.



New enquiries can be made to Paul Hubbard by calling 01502 531218 or emailing [info@paulhubbardonline.com](mailto:info@paulhubbardonline.com)

- **EAST SUFFOLK UNITED IN SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE**

The Council has united to condemn Russia’s invasion of Ukraine and pledged to support any Ukrainians seeking refuge in the district. Local authorities Suffolk are working closely together to ensure they can deliver an effective, co-ordinated response to Government requirements to support Ukrainians seeking refuge in Suffolk. To assist this co-ordinated approach and to ensure those living and working in East Suffolk are kept informed of the Government’s response to the crisis, a new position has now been created within our cabinet and as of Friday 1 April, Cllr Judy Cloke is the Assistant Cabinet Member for Refugee Support.

Read more at [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/news/east-suffolk-united-in-support-for-ukraine/](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/news/east-suffolk-united-in-support-for-ukraine/)

- **ROBOPETS BRINGING COMFORT TO OLDER RESIDENTS**

To help older residents, especially those living with dementia, we have recently purchased 20 companion pets which are being given to local dementia groups and care homes across East Suffolk.



The pets, which are robotic cats and dogs, provide the interactive companionship associated with owning a pet which can be therapeutic for many people, especially those living with dementia. Piloted at the Memory Lane Group in Felixstowe, robopets have so far been given to Sole Bay Health Centre in Reydon, Glebe House Residential Care Home in Hollesley, the Pear Tree Fund in Halesworth and the Forget Me Not Café in Kesgrave.

- **COMMUNITY RADIO RECEIVES COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP GRANT FUNDING**

Rendlesham Community Radio, which provides opportunities for young people to gain experience as presenters or producers, has been awarded over £1,400 in funding through the Melon, Woodbridge and Deben Peninsula Community Partnership. The station originated as a way of connecting the community during the pandemic – broadcasting for Rendlesham Youth Group's room in the local community centre but has since grown substantially. As well as supporting undiscovered local talent by offering the chance to perform in the studio 'live lounge', the parish council-backed initiative aims to encourage young people to explore their potential in performing arts – expressing the challenges they face and telling their stories through their own art. Rendlesham Community Radio's Community Radio's £1,443.17 grant will be put towards further supporting its work around youth engagement, community cohesion, work-related learning and social isolation.

- **NEW LEASE OF LIFE FOR FORMER RAILWAY SIGNALMAN'S COTTAGE**

A run-down railway crossing cottage has been granted a new lease of life thanks to a deal enabled by the Council. The former signalman's cottage, just north of Campsea Ashe, near Wickham Market.



**Cllr Stephen Burroughes**

Member for the Kelsale & Yoxford Ward

Cabinet Member for Customer Services, ICT & Commercial Partnerships

Twitter @CllrStephenB

**CHAIR KELSEA VILLAGE HALL (KVH) REPORT TO KcC ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**  
**6 April 2022**

1. We are pleased to present this report to the April 2022 Annual Parish Meeting. Overall, this has been a successful year for the Village Hall, despite continuing problems caused by the pandemic. We have increased the funds available to the hall, the issues arising from the theft by the former treasurer, A J Bouton, have been resolved and we have held a number of very well received social and community events.

2. We have benefitted from the support of Cllr Stephen Burroughes who secured funding for painting the exterior of the hall. We are extremely grateful to Cllr Burroughes for his help, and we are optimistic that the work will start shortly. This will very much enhance the appearance of the hall and is the first step we hope towards several improvements to the building. We have also been the recipients of government Covid-19 Business Grants which mean we are able to move forward our planning applications for various essential improvements including for a fire escape from the Committee Room, lightning protection and, we hope, in due course, a lift and disabled access to the first floor. Our cash balances are currently in excess of £30,000. We are also pursuing an insurance claim in respect of the theft of funds (see above). This grinds along at a snail's pace, but we will strenuously pursue it!

3. In January 2022 A J Bouton was sentenced to 14 months for theft from the Village Hall. To see the matter resolved was a real relief so that we could put it behind us completely. Also, the matter had been a source of worry to many people in the village and we are glad that it is over. However, we heard last week that Bouton has applied for leave to appeal to the Court of Appeal against his sentence. Please bear in mind, since he pleaded guilty, he cannot appeal against conviction, so the appeal is limited to the length of the sentence. He must secure leave to appeal which may not be given. We will keep the Parish Council advised of developments. We very much hope he is not given leave to appeal – it would be a dreadful waste of public money given his guilty plea.

4. Events held over the year ranged from the Quiz and Flower and Produce Show to the fabulous Dress Up Saturday organized by Julia Ewart and our weekly coffee mornings. Kayleigh Stubbs has maintained the coffee mornings as a lively regular event in the village, appreciated by many as a source of social contact, especially during the difficult months of the pandemic. The coffee mornings also have a good financial purpose – Kayleigh has raised more than £500 through them and this is a really helpful source of funds.

5. Over the next year we are planning several events including a quiz, art exhibition (and hoping to revive a Village Hall tradition with it), a line dance and Christmas Fayre. We are really trying to create traditions of events, so they are expected parts of the village calendar. We hope the Art Show and Flower and Produce Show become part of that tradition.

6. We were also pleased to be asked by the PC and the Open Gardens Organisers to work with them on the events for the Platinum Jubilee and the Open Gardens.

7. There are many people to thank for their support, particularly Cllr Stephen Burroughes, Alan Revell, Edwina Galloway and Claire Buttle. We are also grateful for the support we have received from the Clerk to the Parish

Council who has given invaluable practical advice about organising and insuring events. All the members of the Committee have worked hard for the success of the hall – Kayleigh Stubbs, Peter Ewart and Simon Ransome



deserve special mention for their work on events, our accounts and on the building and planning matters. We were also delighted that David Granville-George agreed to become a trustee of the hall again this year. David has brilliant practical and historical knowledge of the hall, a good business brain and is extremely effective at organising our 100 Club which goes from strength to strength. Thanks to the whole Committee. We also are very grateful to Kelsale Social Club for its work with us and essential contribution to our events.

8. Above all we thank the local residents who have stood by us through the difficult months and attend our events and support our fundraising. None of this would be possible without them.

I am happy to answer any questions about the report.

**Mary Clarke**

**KVH Committee Chair**

#### **Report from Kelsale Social Club, APM 2022 6<sup>th</sup> April .**

After the strange times of the Covid Virus and the various lockdowns we took the opportunity to carry out some refurbishments to the Social Club to make it more inviting and comfortable for members.

Since the opening after lock down the Club is continuing to be very busy with many new members signing up for the very reasonable price of just £10 per year, if you would like to join just pop in and speak to the bar staff!

Bar prices are very reasonable and are cheap in comparison to many places, and we are trying to keep the costs, of going out for a drink, down as much as possible even as expenses are rising in all other parts of life.

As one of the main social hubs of the village we have endeavoured to increase our times of opening to suit all groups of members, including those who meet up who have retired and workers who perhaps like an early evening catchup as well as the ones who prefer to have a drink later in the evening.

There is a very active Men's and Ladies Darts teams who play regularly in the local Darts League, although this has been a little disjointed over the last couple of years, but is now getting back to the new normal.

We regularly hold events including Live music from local bands, Karaoke, Quiz nights, Gin Nights, a Horse and Greyhound racing days and we are planning some more social days out, you can view all the upcoming events on our Facebook page, Community News, Kelsale cum Carlton Web site or again pop in and speak to the bar staff.

If you are a member, you can also use the social club bar for private functions such as birthday parties, weddings, wakes etc when you book the Village Hall Committee room (subject to availability), we can also recommend an excellent local caterer for you too!

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee is being celebrated in Kelsale cum Carlton on Thursday 2nd June 2.00pm-5.00pm when Kelsale cum Carlton Parish Council are hosting a street party in the village centre, the social club will be open all afternoon with live music in the evening.

There will also be a "Queens" Platinum Jubilee Quiz on Friday Evening in the Social club, its always a good fun evening so why not come along, you will be most welcome.



## **Report on the year to Kelsale cum Carlton Parish Council 6<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

To year 2021 was marked by strengthened support for the Flora Preservation Trust by Kelsale cum Carlton Parish Council, for which we express much gratitude

### **Trustees and officers**

Trustee positions are for 3-year terms, and subject to re-election. Four original Trustees were appointed at the formation of the Suffolk Flora Preservation Trust in September 1986. After deaths and a resignation, of these four Gathorne Cranbrook remains in post, and is Chairman of the Trust.

Janey Cullen, Trustee and Editor, remains committed and active in both Honorary positions. The Zisman family sold their house in Friston, and moved to Devon; long-standing Trustee Sybella Zisman resigned her position, but remains a supportive Guardian.

Pete Southgate, already a Guardian and Editor, agreed to replace her as a Trustee.

To augment our number to the original four, we were grateful that Piers Sturridge agreed to become a Trustee

Sybella Zisman had also served as Hon. Treasurer; we are most grateful to John Fisher for generously agreeing to accept this office.

Paul Parry resigned, after many years of voluntary service as Secretary of the Trust for which we are most grateful.

We have welcomed Merlyn Mitchell Cotts as Secretary, a post she manages to combine with a busy life in other spheres.

Steve Stocks continues to manage the Trust's website [[www.suffolkflora.org](http://www.suffolkflora.org)] with great efficiency and perceptiveness.

John Rainer continues to apply his skills to his role as Hon. Landscape Historian, an activity of special importance in relation to the Trust's first reserve, Simpson's Fromus Valley, upstream of Kelsale village and formerly part of the Bigods' Mediaeval Deer Park.

### **Registered address**

It was convenient, while Sybella was Trustee, to use the Zisman home in Friston as the registered address of the charity. On the sale of their house, a change became necessary. We are most grateful to Kelsale for allowing us to use the Village Hall as the Trust's new registered address, and for the arrangement made for the collection of mail delivered here.

### **Annual publication.**

Thanks to the good work of Editors/Trustees Janey Cullen and Pete Southgate, the Trust's annual publication was available shortly before Christmas. Intended to commemorate the Trust's 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary, this was titled *Retrospect and Resources*. The contents are in two parts. 'Retrospect' includes a history of the Trust, and reviews of two important new books: *Deer Parks of Suffolk* and *The Bigod Earls of Norfolk in the 13<sup>th</sup> Century*. Part II, 'Resources' consists of our first tabulated checklists of the flora of the Trust's two reserves, Simpson's Fromus Valley, in Kelsale, and 'Orchid Glade', in Hasketon. With these floral lists, we hope this 8<sup>th</sup> number in the Adult Education Series will be a landmark issue for botanists. Single copies are for sale at £12 -- and, of course are free to subscribing Guardians who pay £25 annually in support of the diverse activities of this charitable trust.

As your historians know very well, Kelsale was the principal manor allocated after the Norman conquest to the Bigod family. Roger Bigod founded a deer-park here and, in the 12<sup>th</sup> century,

created a massive earthen dam to enclose a large fish pond fed by the Fromus stream. The Bigods went on to build Framlingham castle, which became their principal residence, while the Kelsale deer park and fish pond remained essential to their economy. In due course, childless despite two marriages, the last Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, bequeathed his lands and titles to the monarch in exchange for a generous annuity. On the death of his widow Alice, Countess of Norfolk, in 1313, among other properties, ownership of the Kelsale deer-park passed to King Edward I who gave the whole estate and titles to his son Thomas. Subsequently, by succession, the property passed to the Howard family, Dukes of Norfolk, who retained Kelsale deer-park until the early 17<sup>th</sup> century, when it was sold. Maps made at that time show that the great pond had been drained and the south-western part of the deer-park (including the area of the present nature reserve) had become farmland.

This fascinating history is still apparent in the landscape of the Trust's Fromus Reserve, which consists of Mediaeval meadows including Meremeade (the drained fish pond),, a deep central gorge wooded by veteran trees of great antiquity, and bisected by the monumental earthwork, once the dam that held up the huge fish pond in the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> Centuries. The river Fromus, flowing through the wooded gully out into the lower meadows, is a winterbourne -- a raging torrent in wet winter weather and a clear, blithe trickle in summer days.

As in Mediaeval times, the mixed grassy sward of the pastures is maintained by grazing by the Trust's small herd of rare breed British White cattle. The flowering plants of the thick hedgerows and ancient woodland enhance the floral richness of the reserve



**Open Days for the public at the Fromus Reserve are scheduled from 10 am to 5 pm, on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2022 (for Spring flowers) and on 16<sup>th</sup> July (summer natural history).**



## **IP17GNS update March 2022**

Saxmundham's community-based volunteer service, IP17GNS, is busier than ever. We're setting our sights on building a resilient and inclusive community that cares for each other. Now, 2 years after we began, we intend:

- People in our community are confident in asking for help when they need it and providing help to others when they can.
- People in our community feel less lonely, more connected and have opportunities for social interaction.
- People in our community are more confident and motivated to make changes to their lives to improve their health, well-being and life chances
- People are proud to live in our community.

Our trustees and management committee are dedicated to these aims and providing services and activities which achieve them.

The idea behind a Good Neighbour Scheme is different from a lot of charities in that while we do offer financial and practical help to people, we also place a big emphasis on finding solutions and skills within our existing community that will enhance the lives of others. Our volunteers and funders live in the community they serve and there is a real sense of coming together to make our local area a better place to live.

Since the beginning of the year, we have completed 382 jobs which are in line with our values. These include 134 prescription deliveries to people isolating or unable to leave their homes, supplied 144 people with emergency food provision (including distributing £5k of Tesco vouchers kindly supplied by Suffolk Community Foundation). 'There is an acute and ongoing need for services to support struggling families in IP17,' explains Bryony Peall, IP17GNS's Operations Manager. 'People are being squeezed with higher bills alongside cuts in support such as Universal Credit.'

We have also made 41 personal-shopper trips for people who can't get to the shops themselves and our Line Dancing, Gather & Grow and Funky Fridays groups have attracted 160 participants and encouraged social interaction and physical activity.

This month we will be celebrating our 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary, as a charity. The activities our volunteers carry out now is often quite different to those early days of Covid. But the impact it has within our community is no less important or impressive. In recent years we have navigated some of the most challenging times. IP17GNS is proud to have facilitated our community growing stronger as a result of coming together to support each other.

### **High Sheriffs Award Winner 2022:**

We are absolutely thrilled to have been recognised as **Suffolk's Caring Community Award**

## **Winner.**

The annual Suffolk High Sheriff's Awards are designed to reward the volunteers and charities devoting their time and energy to improve the communities in which they live.

We certainly could not have achieved this without a lot of energy from our incredible team of volunteers. An enormous **THANK YOU** to everyone who has supported us.

## **Community-to-community support set to bloom across IP17 with the Sunflower Spectacular**

This year, to commemorate the 750<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Saxmundham's Market Charter, we'll be planting 750 sunflowers around the town.

The aim is to create a colourful display whilst getting local residents involved in growing. It's well documented that spending time in nature is a great way to boost wellbeing and we're hoping this, along with the joy that comes from a community effort, will make this event a success.

The inspiration for this project was given to us by Saxmundham resident Jean-Jaques DeBelgeonne who is incredibly passionate about growing sunflowers and wants to share his expertise with the community. Together, with the Town Council's Sax Green Team, we're aiming to work with local schools, care homes, businesses and volunteers to bring it to fruition.

## **Join us & get planting!**

There will be a pop-up stall on Samundham Market **20<sup>th</sup> April 10am-1pm** where you can sow sunflower seeds for your own garden and the community flower beds. Green Team leader, Amy will be there to welcome anyone who wants to get involved. Help us fill our town with sunshine this summer!

## **Sunflower awards**

In September, after a season of growing, we'll be awarding prizes to the most interesting sunflowers, with categories including tallest, shortest, most heads etc. Watch this space for further details.

REPORT TO KELSEALE-CUM-CARLTON PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING 2022  
FROM ST MARY & ST PETER'S CHURCH KELSEALE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL  
St Mary & St Peter's Church

We were very excited to welcome Rev Dave Preece and his young family to our Benefice in March. Although we opened our churches on 21 March for worship, unfortunately we couldn't welcome him in person as we were still restricted in numbers allowed in for services. We have enjoyed the opportunity to get to know him and his wife and two young daughters – both of whom go to Kelsale school. Whilst we were restricted, we continued with online services when necessary, but were delighted when once again we could use the church buildings more fully. This included a couple of weddings in the late summer. We now have a new Benefice website – [www.skc.church](http://www.skc.church) – where details are available of all that is going on in the two parishes in Saxmundham Benefice.

#### Church Fabric

During the year we have had a large oak storage cupboard built, which has been paid for by a very generous donation in Reg and Edna Solomon's memory from their two sons. This is situated in the south aisle near the east end. We have also had donations from members of Jenny Bridson's family, which will be used help pay for flowers in the church and some bulbs in the churchyard. We are still hoping to go ahead with plans for a toilet and kitchenette in the church – we have had an informal meeting with our architect and the Diocesan Advisory Board and are now awaiting their agreement in principle that we can start to draw up detailed plans. We've had some plaster come down from the Chancel ceiling, and on inspection of the south side of the external slate roof note that we have slipped and missing slates; all this needs repair and we are looking into how we can fund this.

#### Churchyard

Our gardeners have continued to do great work in the churchyard, including pollarding the lime trees on the south side of the church building. Once we have sufficient funds we will look at pollarding the remaining limes, and the yews. We now have a new hard-stand bin store, for which many thanks to the Parish Council for their donation which funded this. The main footpath from the Lychgate to the main church door was re-surfaced by Carl Ruth in the summer. Because of lack of space for burials in the churchyard, we have been granted permission to over-bury in three areas where no grave markers are in evidence. This has removed the imminent necessity that we might have had to close the churchyard for future burials. In the summer the Alde Valley History Group undertook a survey of graves in the newer areas of the churchyard, which enabled us to update our records for visitors.

#### Community

We re-started the bi-monthly newsletter in November, and are very grateful to the people of the village who are delivering these to every household in Kelsale cum Carlton. We are also trying to set up a Friends of St Mary & St Peter's Church, that aims of which are to raise funds for the repair and beautification of the church building. 'Friends' are not necessarily churchgoers but could be people who wish to still see the church open for use by the community. There will be a launch evening on 11 June from 6.00pm until 8.00pm in the church where more information will be available, including a short slide show – people can come along for 5 minutes or for the whole evening. We are grateful to members of the village community who help with cleaning the church and also clock-winding.