

THE HEDINGHAMS

PARISH MAGAZINE

APRIL 2025

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Welcome

It's a busy time of year for our garden birds. Territories are being claimed and nests are being built. Birds become much more visible as they proclaim ownership of our gardens with vibrant song and bold display, their bright spring feathers standing out amongst the newly emerged leaves.

The best way to see where birds might be breeding is to spot where they're singing. If a robin has a favourite song-post in your garden, the nest site won't be far away. If you're lucky enough to have a large garden, two or three male robins may be laying claim to different parts of it, and will defend their boundaries with posturing and sometimes fighting. Great tits and blue tits are house-hunting, visiting nest boxes and suitable holes in trees and buildings before returning with nesting material. Sometimes squabbles take place over a particularly desirable residence – maybe both a great tit pair and a couple of house sparrows have their eye on the same site. It's all fascinating to watch, and really gives you the feeling that spring is truly here.



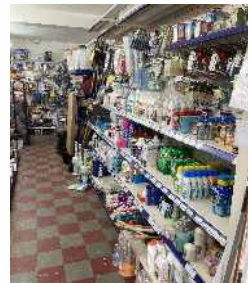
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Church Services



This information will always be available on the church website at

<https://www.hedingham.info/>
(look at the tab 'Services and Events')



April

	St Nicholas's Castle Hedingham	St Peter's, Sible Hedingham
Saturday 5 th Apr		10am - 12pm Working Group
Sunday 6 th Apr	11am Holy Communion	9.30am Family Worship 6pm Youth Meet-up
Monday 7 th Apr	10.30am - 12pm Coffee Morning All welcome	
Palm Sunday 13 th Apr	No service	9.30am Family Communion
Monday 14 th Apr	10.30am - 12pm Coffee Morning All welcome £3	
Good Friday 18 th Apr	12 - 1pm Meditations on the Cross	1.30pm Good Friday service
Saturday 19 th Apr		10am - 12pm Coffee Morning
Easter Day 20 th Apr	ALLELUIA - CHRIST IS RISEN!	
	11am Holy Communion	9.30am Family Communion
Sunday 27 th Apr	No service	9.30am Family Communion
Monday 28 th Apr	10.30am - 12pm Coffee Morning All welcome	

Message from the Rector

Hope

One of the things I've been doing this Lent is looking for the shape of the cross around me. It's a way of seeing Lent as a journey towards the time when we remember Jesus' death on the cross and His resurrection from the dead. I've been fascinated to see how often the shape of the cross is visible in furniture, buildings, plants, trees and all over the place!

I've also been reading 'Hope', the autobiography of Pope Francis which was published in January. At a time when so much in our world feels unsettled and difficult, focusing on hope feels very helpful.

By the time this magazine comes out, we'll be even further through Lent, and Easter will already be on the horizon. Easter gives all sorts of opportunities to celebrate hope. Elsewhere in this magazine, you'll find details of some of the celebrations which are taking place in our local churches. However you choose to celebrate this season, I pray the time is hope-filled for you and those around you.

God bless you

Justin





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TOURS & TASTINGS

Sun 25th May - 2pm
Sun 29th June - 2pm
Sun 13th July - 2pm
Sun 31st August - 2pm
Sat 27th September - 2pm

BOOK ONLINE

www.tuffonhall.co.uk

EVENTS

OPEN DAYS
Fri 27th June - 11am - 4pm
Sat 28th June - 11am - 4pm
Sun 29th June - 11am - 4pm
JAZZ IN THE VINES
Sat 23rd August - 4pm - 7pm
CHRISTMAS POP UP SHOP
Sat 29th November - 10am - 4pm
CLUB ALPINE
Sat 6th December - 8pm - 11pm



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Baptist Church



At the time of writing, mid March, we have enjoyed a week of sunshine and double figure temperatures. Many people were convinced that spring was here. Sadly, we are back to single figure day time temperatures. Unfortunately, we cannot always rely on the weather. The same principle seems to be at work in world affairs and politics. We are currently experiencing extreme uncertainty regarding the Ukraine and Russian conflict. There is uncertainty in the world markets and uncertainty in many countries that were always regarded as stable.

As we approach Easter there is something in which we can be certain. Christ was crucified and rose again. The message of hope has been consistent for over two thousand years.

If you need certainty and hope in your life, visit a church service on Easter Sunday. There you can hear the true message of salvation that is found in Jesus Christ.

I wish you a happy and fulfilled Easter.

Please come and join us for one of our Easter Services.

Sunday Morning Services including Sunday School 10.30 am

Cygnets (Babies and Toddlers) Mondays in Term time 9.30am -11.30pm £2 per family

Hedingham Food Bank Tuesdays 2-4pm

Messy Church (Easter) April 5th 4-6pm Fun for all the Family (Includes a meal) Free

Hotspot Thursdays 10-2pm (Coffee Morning plus lunch) free

Easter Services:

Palm Sunday 10.30 am April 13th

Good Friday Reflection 6.30pm April 18th

Easter Sunday All Age Service 10.30 am April 20th

Card Making workshop 9.30-12.30pm April 26th £12 (contact Carole 01787 460265)

Hedingham Baptist Foodbank: Tuesdays 2.00pm-4.00pm, referral required before arrival (referral available from a range of agencies e.g. Braintree District Council, Doctor's Surgery, Schools etc.)

Nick Vosper (01787 460265) nick@hedinghambaptist.org

Dave Wright dave@hedinghambaptist.org

Carole Rainbird carole@hedinghambaptist.org

www.hedinghambaptist.org **www.facebook.com/hedinghambaptist**

For all events see details on Facebook or Website

Catholic Church



The Catholic Parish of St Francis of Assisi Halstead
Father Felix Adiele The Presbytery, 90 Colchester Road,
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Tel: 01787 472477

Email: halstead@brcdt.org

You are warmly welcomed to join us in our religious,
pastoral and social activities.

A Catholic Mass is celebrated at St Nicholas' Church,
Castle Hedingham, every Sunday at 9.00am.

Details of the Mass times at St Francis of Assisi Parish Church
are published on our Facebook page and can also be found on
Enjoy Halstead and Streetlife Halstead pages.

halstead@dioceseofbrentwood.org or stewardofthegospel592@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/stfrancishalsteadparish

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Household Recycling

My Recycling Calendar

MARCH 2025



 Grey bin and food bin

 Different collection day

 Clear sacks and food bin only

 Different collection day

 Green bin, clear sacks and food bin

 Different collection day

 Green bin (SUBSCRIBERS ONLY), clear sacks and food bin

 Different collection day

Grey Bin We will only collect waste that is in the bin with the lid shut.

We will not collect additional bags on top or near the bin.

You should only put your bin out by 7am on the day of your collection.

Green Bin Garden waste collections are a subscription-based service.

Go to: <https://www.braintree.gov.uk/bins-waste-recycling>



Heddingham United FC

Here are the home fixtures for the Men's Firsts and Reserves and the Ladies team

L	5th Apr 3pm	HUFC Firsts	v	Great Bentley First
L	12th Apr 3pm	HUFC Reserves	v	Harwich & Parkeston A
L	16th Apr 6.30pm	HUFC Firsts	v	Gosfield United
D2	27th Apr 2pm	HUFC Ladies	v	Hutton FC Women Dev

Contact Steve Parsons 07488 362530 for more information

CH Women's Group

Our next meeting, to be held at the Memorial Hall, Castle Hedingham from 2pm, is on Wednesday 16th April. The speaker is Roy Tyzack, a retired murder squad officer who is now an Emergency care medic. Roy is also an experienced speaker for groups and offers a variety of talks. His talk on the 16th is entitled 'A Story on Every Street Corner' and is a virtual, illustrated walk from Stratford to Aldgate, visiting all of the historic sites en-route. Everything from Kray Twins sites to the home of Captain Cook, the Battle of Cable Street and the Match Factory strike and lots more. This promises to be an entertaining and interesting afternoon, one not to be missed.

We are a friendly group of ladies so why not come along and see for yourself, we will always make you welcome. Contact Sylvia on 01787 469129 for any enquires about the group.

COACH TRIPS

Call Ann on 07442 180237 or Hilda on 07513 886288 to enquire or to book.

April 23rd East Ruston Old Vicarage Garden – an exotic garden in an exposed prairie landscape by the North Norfolk coast. A beautiful 32-acre garden containing many garden rooms with herbaceous borders, sub-tropical gardens, a box parterre, the King's walk, sunken rose garden, Mediterranean garden, to name a few. Starting in 1973, the gardens have been gradually created, extended and developed from three feet high tufted grass to the glorious garden of the present day. We are planning to stop nearby for lunch, then proceed to East Ruston for the afternoon. An on-site tearoom offers refreshments. The cost is £43 pp for coach and entrance to the gardens. When booking please enquire about the lunchtime stop.



May 23rd – Wroxham Mini Worlds - home to the knitted Sandringham estate and Knittingdale Hospital as well as several miniature 'worlds', collectibles, retro gaming and interactive displays. We then have the option to either spend the rest of the day in Wroxham or go to Hoveton Hall for their gardens and rhododendron display. The cost for coach and entrance to Mini Worlds is £39 pp. The cost for coach, entrance to Mini Worlds and entrance to Hoveton Hall is £47pp.

June 25th – Belvoir Castle, dating back to the 11th century, the home to the Dukes of Rutland. Explore the world of Belvoir Castle, the turrets and towers of which rise over the Vale of Belvoir, the restored Capability Brown Gardens and lakes, parkland, retail village, Belvoir Bistro or Vale View Café.

July 22nd – Thames Cruise - with time in Marlow, then a 2 hour cruise to Henley with some time here as well. More details to follow.



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MADE THINKING DAY PIZZA

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HELD A MONOPOLY EVENING WITH HOT CHOCOLATE + POP CORN

CELEBRATED CHINESE NEW YEAR + CHINESE LANTERN FESTIVAL

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PLAY RACQUET SPORTS + DARTS

MAKE MOTHERING SUNDAY CRAFTS

ENJOY EASTER GOODIES + CRAFTS + GAMES



Girlguiding

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New Hedingham Medical Centre - Update

Braintree District Council has completed the process to transfer a plot of land located in Sible Hedingham to OneMedical Property, a leading developer of healthcare properties.

The land transfer will pave the way for the construction of a state-of-the-art medical centre designed to meet the healthcare needs of the local community in the future.

With planning permission and necessary approvals already secured, OneMedical Property is set to proceed with the development of a modern, purpose-built facility that will replace the three GP surgery sites currently run by the Hedingham Medical Centre. While OneMedical Property will own and manage the new building, Primary Care health services will continue to be provided by Hedingham Medical Centre.

The new facility, which will be just under 1,000 square metres in size, will feature 11 clinical rooms, a spacious waiting area, reception, dispensary, utility and storage spaces, as well as dedicated staff rooms and office space. The building will be designed to a high standard, incorporating the latest in healthcare design principles to ensure a welcoming and functional environment for patients and staff alike.

This new centre is part of a collaborative effort between OneMedical Property, Hedingham Medical Centre, NHS Mid and South Essex Integrated Care Board, Braintree District Council, and local residents and community groups. Together, they have worked to design a building that not only meets the current needs of the community, but is also adaptable for future growth.

The facility will serve approximately 12,000 patients from Sible and Castle Hedingham, Great Yeldham and surrounding villages. The practice currently cares for around 9,000 patients, and the new facility will accommodate the anticipated growth of the local population. It will also support the practice's commitment to offering increased access to healthcare services, including extended operational hours and the use of new technologies to provide virtual consultations for patients unable to visit in person.

A key feature of the design is a focus on sustainability and accessibility. The building is expected to achieve a BREEAM 'Excellent' rating, a leading international sustainability certification. Additionally, the new medical centre will feature biophilic design elements, sound-absorbing materials, and abundant natural light, creating a healthier and more pleasant environment for patients, visitors, and staff. It will also be built with pandemic-proof features such as multiple entrance points, glazed reception screens, and spaces designed to support social distancing.

With the land deal now finalised, OneMedical Property will soon be entering the final stages of the construction tender process. Following the award of the contract, work will begin on preparing the site, with construction set to follow shortly thereafter.

For further updates on progress, visit www.onemedicalgroup.co.uk/hedingham-medical-centre/



Sible Hedingham Library

Opening hours Monday 9am-1pm
Thursday 2pm-7pm Saturday 9am-5pm

What's On

MONDAY - Baby and Toddler Rhymetime 9.30 – 10.00am

Knit and Natter 10.00am – 12.00noon *(bring your own knitting and have a chat)*

360 Walking Group 10.00am – 12.00noon *(Meet at the library for a 3-4 mile walk. Wear appropriate attire, refreshments provided afterwards)*



THURSDAY - Book Group Meetings 2.00 – 3.00pm *Contact library for details*
Pokemon Card Swap 3.30 – 4.30pm



SATURDAY - Lego Coding 9.30 – 10.30am *Please book via the Essex Library website*

Baby and Toddler Rhymetime 10.00 – 10.30am

Crafts for Children 10.00am – 4.00pm

Lego Coding 2.00 – 3.00pm *Please book via the Essex library website*

Lego Blockbuilders 2.30 – 3.30pm



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Heddingham History Group

RICHARD II AND ROBERT DE VERE, 9TH EARL OF OXFORD: THE RISE AND FALL OF A KING AND HIS FAVOURITE



An illustrated talk by

Jan Cole

Friday 25 April 2025 at 7.30pm

at

Heddingham Baptist Church, 177 Swan Street, Sible Heddingham,

CO9 3PX (next to The Sugar Loaves)

Members of Heddingham History Group **FREE** / non-members **£5**/
school/students/under-25s **FREE**

Tea / coffee & cake / biscuits £2

ALL WELCOME

For further information, phone 01787 829317 or e-mail jan.cole.heddingham@gmail.com



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COMMUNITY LITTER PICK



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CLEAN

SIBLE HEDINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL ARE ORGANISING A
COMMUNITY LITTER PICK ON SUNDAY 6 APRIL 2025

TO MEET AT THE PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE AT 2:00 PM AND
FINISH AT THE WHITE LION FOR TEA AND CAKE AT 4:00 PM

LITTER PICKERS, BAGS, HOOPS AND HI-VIS JACKETS WILL
BE GIVEN OUT ON THE DAY

ALL VOLUNTEERS WELCOME

Could all who are interested in attending this event, please
register at the Parish Council Office before Thursday 27 March 2025



SAVE THE DATE



SIBLE HEDINGHAM VE DAY 80 CELEBRATIONS

THE PARISH COUNCIL ARE ORGANISING AN EVENING VICTORY IN EUROPE 80th
ANNIVERSARY EVENT

THURSDAY 8 MAY 2025

THERE WILL BE A PROCESSION FROM THE WAR MEMORIAL AT ST. PETER'S
CHURCH (TIME TO BE CONFIRMED)

THE EVENT WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE RECREATION GROUND FROM 7:30 PM
FOOD AND DRINK WILL BE AVAILABLE

9:30 pm: NATIONAL LIGHTING OF THE NEW PARISH BEACON

WE ARE ALSO PLEASED TO CONFIRM THE ATTENDANCE OF HELLS BELLS MORRIS
DANCERS

FURTHER DETAILS TO BE ANNOUNCED SOON—PLEASE KEEP AN EYE ON THE
VILLAGE NOTICE BOARDS AND THE PARISH COUNCIL'S NEW WEBSITE FOR
FURTHER INFORMATION



Parish Council Meeting Minutes



Minutes of Sible Hedingham Parish Council Annual Parish Council Meeting Held in the Village Hall on Monday 10th March 2025 at 7.00 pm

In the chair – Cllr Beavis

Present:– Cllrs Calver, Cole, Fennelly, Hendry, Luxon, Ranson, Taylor, Tufnell, Young

Mrs L Slade – Clerk & Eight Members of the Public

Apologies for absence - Cllr Adam, Cllr Heywood and Cllr Lee & C/Cllr Schwier

The minutes of the last meeting were approved - there were no matters arising.

Ender's Touch Charity – no community project could be identified; however the PC would like to accept the offer of support in the future; matter deferred.

Parish Magazine - Cllr Taylor met with the Editor of the Hedinghams Parish Magazine prior to the meeting. Options were put forward to the committee; however the request for funding is for the current year to enable continued production and to meet the expectations of current advertisers. Any future change to the format and delivery of the magazine must be planned ahead, so further discussion is recommended for a future meeting. Cllr Beavis stated that she and Cllr Ranson fully support the publication of the magazine. It was resolved to support the Parish Magazine with a contribution of £3900, (£1300 for three months).

Community Litter Pick - Sunday 6 April 2025 was decided.

Chairman's Report

Cllr Beavis requested deferral of the Car Park issues to another meeting to enable more time to clarify the options.

The PC will consider the re-structuring and consolidation of committees at the May meeting.

County Councillor's Report - Cllr Schwier's reports are at: <https://siblehedingham-pc.gov.uk/category/news/>

District Councillors Reports

Plans are underway for transference of land by Bloor Homes; the Pocket Park, Nat West Bank Building and Children's Play Area at the Riverside Walk. This will be discussed at a future Planning meeting – to be arranged.

An extension on a planning application submitted by One Medical has been requested by Castle Hedingham and Sible Hedingham to enable discussion at the Full Council meeting on 14 April 2025.

Monthly Payments - approved

Reports from sub-committees if applicable

Finance, Governance and Audit – Meeting held on Thu 13 Feb 2025

Adoption of the NALC 2022 updated Standing Orders – approved. Clerk to post on the PC website.

Review of the Scottish Widows accounts – approved.

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Fee of £225.00 for a double interment in the Garden of Remembrance – approved.
Clerk to update the Garden of Remembrance fees on the PC website.

Two year contract for the router on the CCTV – approved. Clerk to contact supplier
To ask Utility Aid to source competitive prices for a decision on transference at the meeting on 14 April 2025. Clerk to contact Utility Aid.

Climate and Environment – Date to be arranged

Events, Community and Communication – Meeting held on Tue 18 Feb 2025

Resignation of Cllr Fennelly from this Committee accepted.

Cllr Ranson's bespoke additions to the beacon approved and he was thanked for his close communication with the contractor appointed. Clerk to contact contractor of the Parish Beacon.

Request of £560 funding towards the research of the Hedingham Heritage Centre – approved. Clerk to contact the Hedingham Heritage Centre

To allocate £5000 to this committee in line with allocations to other sub-committees – approved.

Planning – Meeting held on Tue 25 Feb 2025

Location of the Garden of Remembrance extension at Greys Hall Meadow – approved

Personnel – Date to be arranged.

Footpaths – Meeting held on Wed 12 Feb 2025

Full replacement of the damaged quarter pipe at the Skate Park This is to be discussed at the next FGA Sub-Committee meeting. Clerk to arrange the next FGA meeting.

Parish Council owned Car Park Cllr Beavis to generate a report to share with Full Council for consideration and decision.

Installation of additional bollards and yellow no parking grid lines at the end of the flower bed bordering the Car Park – Agreed. Clerk to source costs.

Resurfacing beneath the swings and roundabout at the Recreation Ground - Urgent repairs required approved. Cllr Ranson to monitor this equipment and Clerk to obtain quotations for repair.

Operational and annual inspection for the play equipment at the Recreation Ground Clerk to contact local contractor.

It was also noted the Oxford Meadow play area has been cordoned off – Cllr Beavis has emailed an enquiry to Braintree District Council.

Love Your Bus grant Fund Clerk reported there had been no feedback from the bus company approached and the date for the submission of an application has now passed.

The path through Greys Hall Meadow – Update It was resolved to seek quotations to repair the damage rather than replace the whole path. Clerk to action.

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Deer Signage Update Cllr Schwier has submitted an LHP to add deer signage to existing poles. Clerk to contact Essex Highways and request a clean of the signage, repair to existing signage where necessary and a cut back of encroaching vegetation around the signs.

Cllr Beavis informed of a voluntary scheme at the ECC where highways issues are identified and the PC funds the improvements - agenda item for 14 April 2025 meeting.

Clerk's Report previously circulated

Clerk also informed the meeting:

The Digital Demand Responsive Transport feasibility study has been posted on the Parish Council website –

The Neighbourhood Watch Reports are posted on the PC website

All requested Cllr training has been booked with the EALC; unfortunately Cllr Taylor's training for the Employment Framework has been cancelled.

The streetlight from Spurgeons Close to Swan Street has now been repaired
Speed Indication Device on Swan Street - not working – Cllr Schwier has requested a repair as soon as possible.

Clerk has requested access to online banking in order to view up-to-date statements.

Broken toilet at the Ladies Conveniences; this will be replaced as soon as possible.

There were no objections to any of the Planning applications:

25/00259/TPOCON Comfrey Cottage, 29-31 Queen Street. Tree work

25/00291/FUL Molly's Wood, Hulls Mill Lane. Installation of an outdoor learning shelter with open sides.

25/00218/FUL Recreation Ground, Recreation Road. Installation of beacon

Cllr Luxon declared an interest in the next item.

25/00309/HH 16 Hawkwood Road. Proposed extensions to side and front.

Agenda items for next meeting/exchange of ideas/final public comments

To discuss the VE Day 80 celebrations

To discuss the suggested roundels on the road into Sible Hedingham

A resident expressed concern the Medical Centre staff and patients may use parking bays at the Library. Another resident expressed concern there could be extra cars parking in Station Road. The parking for the Medical Centre needs to be carefully considered.

Meeting Closed: 8:55 pm

Next Meeting: 14 April 2025

THESE ARE ABRIDGED NOTES FROM THE ORIGINAL DRAFT MINUTES - PLEASE REFER TO THE SIBLE HEDINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE FOR THE FULL TEXT.

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

ABRIDGED MINUTES OF A MEETING OF CASTLE HEDINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL, HELD ON MONDAY 10th MARCH 2025, 6.30PM AT CASTLE HEDINGHAM CLUB

Present: Cllrs Doe, Dover, Foulkes, Hemes, Jones, Smith

In the Chair: Cllr Doe **Clerk:** Claire Waters

Also present: BDC Cllr Jo Beavis & Cllr Wendy Taylor to item 4

Cllr Doe opened the meeting by thanking Jessica Westrop for her service as a Parish Councillor since 2019. Her representation of the farming community and knowledge of the village will be greatly missed.

PROGRESS CHECK

BDC Street Cleaning Agreement: The agreement for 2025-2026 was discussed, including new reporting requirements including risk assessments. The agreement will be signed by the clerk and returned, together with the requested risk assessments and an invoice for the grant of £5,862.72

Bin store relocation: Due to a change of circumstances, our Village Maintenance operatives no longer have easy access to a van. In order to enable street bins to be emptied on foot, the bin store will be moved from the Cemetery to the Memorial Hall car park. This has been agreed with Braintree District Council who empty the bin store weekly and will do this at the same time as emptying the dog waste bins at the park.

HIGHWAYS & PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

20s Plenty Webinar: Cllrs Hemes, Smith and the clerk had attended the webinar “12 months data from Welsh 20mph – what it means for the Local Authorities in the rest of the UK”. The webinar is available to view at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BH34TjlzVDc> and presents the facts about how the new 20mph speed limits have worked in Wales. Action: All Councillors were asked to watch the recording.

Sudbury Road drains: Drains from New Park to Rosemary Lane were due to be jetted week beginning 3rd March, but had probably not been done. Action: Cllr Smith offered to check and take photos

Parking Forge Green/St James Street/Bayley Street junction: Castle Hedingham Tennis Club were thanked for their support with parking issues. The Tennis Club committee has agreed to add text on safe parking in accordance with the Highway Code and with consideration for local residents to the Club Rules and also in the cover email members receive when they renew.

Nunnery St bridge: Cllr Smith reported the temporary repair is rapidly deteriorating. A worsening pothole at Bayley Street is also being monitored and Essex Highways will be chased about repairs

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

REPORTS

Police/Neighbourhood Watch. Weekly Neighbourhood Watch newsletters and monthly Essex Police reports are published at <https://castlehedingham-pc.gov.uk/neighbourhood-watch-police/> A new monthly Parish-Police Partnership Forum will be held via Microsoft Teams starting on Monday 31st March at 6.30pm. Cllr Southgate will be asked if he can attend the first one, with Councillors taking turns for future meetings.

Essex County Council – Cllr Schwier's ECC reports are at

<https://castlehedingham.org/latest-news/>. Cllr Schwier had sent apologies for absence and referred to his reports for an update.

Braintree District Council – Cllrs Beavis and Taylor reported between items 3 and 4
Devolution & Local Government Reform: Cllr Beavis explained the process, including the disbanding of Essex County Council followed by Braintree District Council. This is a major restructure and there are many questions to be answered. BDC are holding an extraordinary meeting to discuss the changes. Cllr Beavis answered questions from Cllr Doe about the potential impact on Parish Councils. The clerk will forward to Councillors information received from EALC and the Local Government Resource Centre. A public consultation is underway at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/greater-essex-devolution/greater-essex-devolution-consultation> The consultation closing date is 13th April 2025
Heddinghams Medical Centre: Cllrs Beavis & Taylor have been working with One Medical, BDC and Bloor Homes on this and the Riverside Walk. A BDC covenant requires the Medical Centre footings to be dug by 1st May 2025. An application for variations to the approved plans will be on the agenda for the April meeting.

VILLAGE EVENTS 2025: SAVE THE DATES

VE Day Thursday 8th May. Plans for Memorial Hall tea dance, teas, fish and chips will be confirmed

St James Fair Saturday 26th July. A Village Park group meeting on 18th March will draw up plans.

MEMORIAL HALL

Castle Heddingham Club: RESOLVED: To approve food truck sales on Tuesdays 4pm to 8-8.30pm, subject to all necessary public liability insurances being supplied in advance to the Parish Council.

Castle Heddingham Club: A local contractor had been approved by the Chairman and clerk to inspect an urgent drain repair at a quoted cost of £300. He will replace the drain surround to avoid digging out the drain for the time being, so the work is likely to cost less than the quote. Another internal drain is also causing concern. **Action:** Cllr Smith will send photos to the clerk.

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Village Hall: The monthly accounts were noted with thanks. Concerns had been raised by the Village Hall Committee about the surface of the disabled space at the front of the hall which is deteriorating causing a trip hazard. **Action:** The Village Hall committee has been asked to request that their clients do not use the space if they are not disabled. The clerk will investigate contractors who could repair the surface.

VILLAGE PARK AND COMMUNITY ALLOTMENT

Village Park: Quotes for “talk tubes” for younger children had been requested but not yet received.

Community Allotment: Following purchase of arches and compost bins, there is £407.09 remaining from the first round of BDC grant funding to be spent by 31st March 2025. The Community Allotment group will be meeting now on Tuesday mornings 10am to 12 noon, with their first spring session on Tuesday 18th March. All residents are welcome to pop by and visit or take part in a session. A notice inviting more participants will be placed in the April issue of the Hedinghams Parish Magazine.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Financial Year end: Review of accounts in preparation for internal and external audit

Hedinghams Medical Centre: Revised planning application

NEXT MEETINGS

Monday 14th Apr 6.30pm Ordinary Parish Council Castle Hedingham Club

Monday 12th May 6.30pm Annual Parish Caouncil Castle Hedingham Club

Monday 19th May 7pm ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY Castle Hedingham Villlage Hall

The meeting closed at 7.50pm

Full minutes of meetings including planning applications and financial information are published at

www.castlehedingham-pc.gov.uk

Crafty Nannas

Meeting once a month on 2nd Tuesday 2pm – 4pm The Castle Club,
Church Lane, Castle Hedingham **with refreshments**

T Club

Meeting on the last Wednesday each month at The Memorial Hall,
Church Lane, Castle Hedingham 2pm – 4pm. A club where older
people can enjoy a chat.

Refreshments & raffle. Admission £2.50p

*Should you wish to know further details about any of these activities,
please contact:*

Jayne Laken on 07458 300 903

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Castle Hedingham Community Allotment

Castle Hedingham Community Allotment at the Village Park



**Spring has arrived and our weekly allotment sessions
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Our volunteers meet weekly on

TUESDAY MORNINGS 10AM TO 12 NOON

**Everyone is welcome -no experience necessary, just come along to
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Or just drop by for a visit and a chat at any of our weekly Tuesday morning sessions – our volunteers will be pleased to welcome you.

Later in the season, everyone can enjoy our freshly harvested seasonal produce which will be available from the Village Shop at St James Street.

**If you need more information, contact Charlie at
charlieallotmentch@gmail.com or call Claire on 07845 056597**



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Friends of Alderford Mill

The last month of the winter closedown has seen little activity as the internal temperature of the mill remains excessively colder than outside making it impossible to work. We have received the first consignment of oak planks as replacements for the floats and sole plates of the waterwheel. We expect, from previous experience, the current timber to rot and break over the next few years. These will be replaced with the oak items as this happens.

On other matters...The grass on the bank at the back of the mill looks finely trimmed like a well kept lawn, having been grazed by the muntjac, which fortunately do not like daffodils, unlike at home where the muntjac have destroyed our tulips and bluebells. The daffodils are beginning to show their colour such that by the time you read this they should be in full flower, a mass of golden daffodils.

Wild life around the mill is elusive, apart from the muntjac, the occasional pair of ducks and moorhens, the only signs of anything else are the footprints in the mud bank close to the mill, these being limited to birds and a large dog.

The Wednesday team have been approached by the County to replace the gate posts of the large 5 bar gate over the road from the mill, already supplying the posts. This may involve some restricted access to the footpath as a large deep hole will need excavating to remove the existing concrete foundation and as the team only meet on Wednesday afternoons the work may span several weeks. Safety barriers have been ordered from the County. A member of the Wednesday team has continued to work at home on the drive from the steam engine, painting the large gearwheels in colours to simulate bare metal teeth. On completion of the drive the plan is to construct a replica boulder (flower sieve) using the donations given in memory of Brian Mills.

Between writing this and you reading it FOAM will have held a planning meeting for this year's open days. We will have also hosted a small paranormal evening for a private party. We look forward to welcoming our regular friends and new visitors to our first opening of the year on Sunday afternoon, the 13th April when if the water level permits we will be running the wheel. Entry is free to all and our ladies will be supplying refreshments.

If our opening days are inconvenient or you prefer a personal tour for the family or a small group, the mill can be opened for private parties by arrangement. Lastly we would still welcome more volunteers for both the Sunday team hosting visitors and the Wednesday team working on the mill.

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CH Gardening Club

Hello everyone! It was so nice to see so many of our members attending the first of our Spring afternoon meetings. Our talk was entitled "In the Garden with William Morris - Flora as Art" given by Fiona Rose. Fiona illustrated her talk with some beautiful slides and was very knowledgeable about her subject.

A reminder that we are holding our Annual Plant Sale on 24th May. As usual there will be refreshments and a raffle, if anyone is able to provide some plants we will be so grateful. Some of us are already busy potting up seeds and plant cuttings please put this date in your diaries and come along and support us.

Our meeting on the 10th of this month will be a talk entitled "Marks Hall – Virtual tour of the Arboretum and its history" to be given by Peter Hickling.

Our meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month 2pm at the Memorial Hall, Castle Hedingham if you are not a member but would like to come along as a visitor you will be so welcome.

Bye for now

Christine, Jean, Maureen, Mary, Barbara, Suzanne, Michael and Brenda.

Chairman Christine Lucock 01206 210872.

Secretary Jean Collings 01787 461663.

Treasurer Maureen Lofting 01787 463343.



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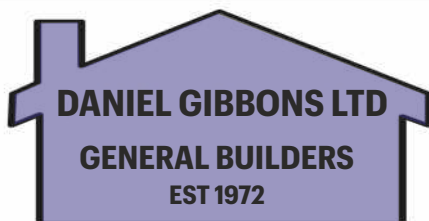
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Hedingham Heritage Society

Thursday 3rd April

'Snake encounters'

Sue Coleman

Sue has run a snake sanctuary for over 30 years and will be bringing some snakes with her, talking about these and about our native snake species.

7.30pm Castle Hedingham Memorial Hall CO9 3DA



Sunday 6th April

A visit and guided walk in Hatfield Forest with National Trust guide, David Simmonds.

Hatfield Forest National Nature Reserve is the best surviving example in Britain of an almost complete Royal Hunting Forest. Meet 10.30 am at the Forest car park, Hatfield Forest, Takeley, Essex, CM22 6NE. Walk will last about 2hrs. Transport available from Hedingham- please contact Rob, Trudi or Mark for further details.



Thursday 1st May

Hill Farm Museum and Guildhall, Gestingthorpe, Essex

Our May meeting will be held at the Museum and Guild Hall 7.30pm at Hill Farm- transport available from Hedingham, please contact Rob, Trudi or Mark.

Members free, non-members £5

ALL WELCOME

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Rob: 01787460664 Trudi: 07768787777 Mark: 07906472636

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'Copy by' Dates 2025-26

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Nov	16th Oct
Dec/Jan	13th Nov
Feb	15th Jan
Mar	12th Feb

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Parish Contacts



1st Hedingham Guides	Kathie Hoye	01787 280200
Alderford Water Mill	Owen Hawkes	07939 372987
Art Group	Dawn Howard	07868 520617
Beavers, Cub Scouts & Scouts	Stuart Carter	01449 259046
Bellringers St Nicholas's	David Newton	07919 043544
Bellringers St Peter's	Janice Watkins	01787 460900
Book Group	Alison Cantor	01787 462537
Cancer Support Group (Sudbury)	Ruth Worsley	ruth-SACSG@outlook.com
C/Hed Bowls Club	Tony Hayward	axel54tony@gmail.com
C/Hed Club	Will Innes-Taylor	chairman@castlesocialclub.co.uk
C/Hed Gardening Club	Maureen Lofting	01787 463343
C/Hed Cricket Club	Terry Jackson	07870 566865
C/Hed Memorial Hall Bookings	Ann Edney	07736 239599
C/Hed Parish Council Clerk	Claire Waters	clerk@castlehedingham-pc.gov.uk
		07845 056597
C/Hed Parish Council Chairman	Garry Southgate	01787 461638
C/Hed Parochial Charities	Brenda Beadle	01787 460336
C/Hed Tennis Club	Sam Stent	01787 463657
C/Hed Women's Group	Sylvia Anderson	01787 469129
Castle Players	Alan Rees	07964 024082
Essex Wellbeing Service		0300 303 9988
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Hedinghams District Councillors	Jo Beavis	07771 984365
	Wendy Taylor	07950 708780
Heritage Society	Rob Worley	01787 460664
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S/Hed Parish Council: Clerk	Lesley Slade	01787 462568
S/Hed Village Hall Bookings	Fiona Earey	07739 582028
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Sunday 21 st September London – AFTERNOON PERFORMANCE	“MAGIC MIKE” WITH FREE TIME		£99.00
Wednesday 24 th September Southend – MATINEE PERFORMANCE	“THE RETURN OF THE LEGENDS” BRENDAN COLE, JAMES JORDAN, PASHA KOVALEV, VICENT SIMONE & IAN WAITE		£84.00
Sunday 28 th September Southend – EVENING PERFORMANCE	“THE MAGIC OF MOTOWN”	NEW!	£79.00
Friday 10 th October Southend – EVENING PERFORMANCE	“HERE & NOW” THE STEPS MUSICAL	NEW!	£92.00

Come and join us on the above visits in our Executive 16 seat Mini Coach with air- conditioning, USB points, leather seats and a panoramic roof. All visits require a minimum number of passengers to proceed.