

WETHERINGSET -CUM- BROCKFORD



NEWSLETTER



DECEMBER 2024 ~ JANUARY 2025

USEFUL CONTACTS

Parish website;

<http://wetheringsettcumbrockford.onesuffolk.net/home/>

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The newsletter is produced in good faith but errors and omissions may occur during the process of production. Please let us know if this is the case so that any errors may be corrected in future editions.



Welcome to the
December 2024
& January 2025
issue of your Newsletter



Gosh, that time of the year again! We have lots of jolly events in the village in the run up to Christmas. I hope you have your tickets for the 'Curtains Up' Christmas show, (see p.11). Their productions are 'not-to-be-missed events'! Back, by popular demand—'Make your own Christmas Wreath' (see p.7). Then, to get us into

the real spirit of the season there is the Carol Service (see p.9) on the 15th.

Enjoy your festivities.
Until February
'25 best wishes

Cally (Editor)

With very best wishes
to everyone for a
healthy and peace
filled 2025

from the newsletter
team ...
Bernie, Cally and Sue



Dates for the Diary

December

Friday 6th	'Curtains Up' Christmas Show
Saturday 7th	'Curtains Up' Christmas Show
Wednesday 11th	'Make a Christmas Wreath'
Sunday 15th	Community Carol Service 6pm

Contributions from the village community for inclusion in the newsletter
are welcomed

Deadline for copy 15th of every month



Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2024

I would like to thank all of you who supported this year's Poppy Appeal for the Mendlesham District. The district includes those villages listed below, with amounts raised by each, this year.

The annual Poppy appeal is when we remember those in our armed forces, past and present, who gave so much for us all and a time to raise invaluable funds for this worthy charity to help those in need.

This fantastic amount is due to the wonderful efforts of a terrific group of collectors who give up their time to help with the appeal, the support of local businesses who are kindly happy to have poppy trays at their premises and to all of you who gave so generously to the Poppy Appeal.

Thank you to you all.

Mendlesham £1379.37	Mendlesham Green £217.05	Thwaite £208.74
Wetheringsett £138.10	Wickham Skeith £846.09	Brockford £117.39

The district as a whole raised the grand sum of **£2932.44**
Jacquie Nash. Poppy Appeal Organiser

Macmillan Coffee Morning 2024

This certificate is presented to
Wetheringsett Village Hall
& friends

For your kind contribution of
£225.00

To help support those affected by cancer. Thank you.

Celine

Celine & the Coffee Morning Team

1 November 2024

Thank You

Newsletter deliveries

As we approach the end of the year, and the last delivery for 2024, we wanted to thank the team of people

who make sure that the newsletter reaches letter boxes within the parish. This can be a pleasant task when the sun is shining, but in the rain, wind and snow, not so much fun!

Without this group of volunteers, the newsletter couldn't function. So, a huge Thank You to: -

Tim and Jo, Elizabeth P, Fiona, Rachel and David, Shirley, Elizabeth A, Andrea, Lesley, Angela and Des, Sue M, Sue S, Mike and Angie, and Linda, and to Nigel and Isla, who help out with holiday cover.

There are no more deliveries until the end of January, so thank you all, and enjoy the festive break.

Cally (Editor), Bernie (Adverts & Finance), Sue and Eddie (Distribution)



thank you

thank you

thank you

thank you

thank you



Also, *Thank You* to Dean and Carole at Digital Copy Centre, Stowmarket for your always helpful and prompt responses in getting our newsletter printed every month

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Following the success of last year when everyone that attended went home with amazing looking wreaths

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for Christmas Wreath Making
Wednesday 11th December
2pm to 4pm**

£7 To include tea and cakes



**Oasis and foliage will be provided
But please bring your own if you prefer
plus any decorations you may want to
add to your creation**

**To book please call Sue Stannard
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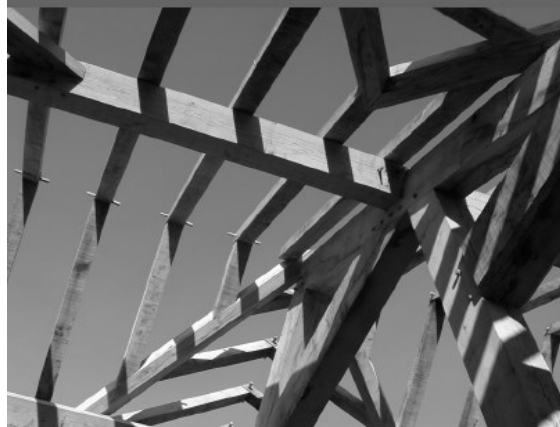
 

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Community Carol Service

All Saints Church, Wetheringsett
Sunday 15th December
6pm



Followed by mince pies, sausage rolls and
mulled wine



Wetheringsett Manor

Wetheringsett Manor School News



Wetheringsett Manor School had a really busy start to this academic year. We won our first football match which took place at home against Bure Park Academy with an amazing score of 10 - 2.

For Remembrance Day our students made a wreath which they then took up to the memorial at Wetheringsett. We are also pleased to announce that next year we will have a poppy box at school – thank you to the local community for organising this.

On Friday 15th November we held a bake sale for Children in Need and raised £158. There will be local organic apple juice on sale near the school entrance at only £2.50 per bottle.

In December we will be making food hampers for the local primary school, so if anyone wishes to contribute any non-perishable items we will be happy to add these to the hampers.

As a school we have some members of staff undertaking a parachute jump to raise sponsorship for the Royal Marsden fund. This will be taking place on Saturday 7th December at Beccles airfield. If you would like to donate, please see the link below.

<https://www.justgiving.com/team/wetheringsettwarriors>

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An
EVENING
of
Christmas Comedy
and
CHAOS
+
SUPPER

**SAVE THE DATE
6TH & 7TH DECEMBER
2024
WETHERINGSETT VILLAGE HALL**

Loosely based on :-

A Christmas Carol
12 Days of Christmas
Nativity
Cinderella

.....BUT NOT AS YOU KNOW THEM 😊

7pm for 7:15 prompt start

Best Christmas Jumper Competition



Raffle & Quiz



Tickets £12.50
—to inc a light supper—
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are welcome

Quote of the month



To achieve great things, two things are needed -
a plan and not quite
enough time

Leonard Bernstein
Composer (1918-1990)



Wetheringsett cum Brockford Parish Council

Report of meeting held 7 October 2024

Trees – Cllr Mrs Aldred reported a delivery of new young trees would be available for planting in the village from mid-November. These were available in packs of 50 including stakes. Any parishioner interested should contact Mrs Aldred, contact details available in the parish councillor list in the magazine.

White Elm Solar Farm – the applicant is in the early stages of preparing proposals for a solar farm and battery energy storage system on land north of Mendlesham; north and west of Thwaite; south of Wickham Skeith and east of Cotton, 250m west of the A140 and immediately either side of Grange Road and Wickham Road. If developed the solar farm would generate enough clean electricity to power in excess of 60,000 typical family homes every year in its operation. The applicant states the solar farm would assist in tackling the climate emergency and help the UK Government reach its target of net zero emissions by 2050.

The proposed development is classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project requiring a Scoping Opinion from the Planning Inspectorate and at this pre-application stage, due to proximity to the site, Wetheringsett Parish Council has been consulted to comment, as part of the Scoping Consultation, as to the scope and level of detail of information to be provided in the Environmental Statement relating to the proposed development. Full details on the proposed application can be found at this link: -

<https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN0110003>

The Parish Council has asked that the following issues are addressed in the scoping report: loss of agricultural land; impact of flood risk following storm Babet; encroachment into heritage areas, medieval deer park and wildlife; regulations for disposal of solar panels and batteries; clarification of grid references; the impact of the increased traffic and upgraded and multiple access points to the site; overlap with other possible development, ie proposed pylons and Mendlesham development.

Emergency Plan – the proposed plan is progress and been reduced to a concise 3-page document listing actions and contact numbers during an emergency pending the arrival of the emergency services. The Village Hall has been identified as the safe hub and will be equipped with essentials should parishioners have to leave their homes. When finalised the plan will be published. Thanks were recorded to Cllr Mrs Kaylee van Zyl for her work on the plan and gathering the information required.

Date of next meetings: Monday 2 December 2024 and Monday 6 January 2025. In the meantime our Councillors wish you all a very happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.

Michael Brame

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Changing Functions

Our Church Charity gives donations to the Church, the school and the 'deserving and necessitous'.

The trustees find it difficult to award the last category, in spite of widening awards to student type projects, or community projects like wifi. This is because the government's system of Benefits means that nobody should be necessitous.

I am reading the Village History, again, and covering the period of 1600-1800 when the church was responsible for looking after the deserving and necessitous via the collection of a local tax and distribution as thought fit. The tax seemed reasonably small, but the distribution was smaller! The administration was all within the parish, and jealously guarded. Moving from one parish to another was rare, oft due to jobs, but also marriage. However, one did not qualify until residence was established. In years.

The History is well worth reading but I am not sure who has saleable copies for those new to the parish, those who have been here less than about 20 years, or this century!

Tony Alston. Resident since WWII.



Section 19 Flood and Water Management Act 2010

Wetheringsett-cum-Brockford Flood Investigation – Storm Babet 2023

Flood Investigation report is now published. Find it at: -

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/asset-library/wetheringsett-cum-brockford-flood-investigation-storm-babet.pdf>

You can click on the link from the parish website: -

<http://wetheringsettcumbrockford.onesuffolk.net/home/>



Wetheringsett C of E Primary School Newsletter Autumn 2024

A Celebration of Nature at Wetheringsett School.



At Wetheringsett our rural location means that we are lucky enough to be surrounded by trees. This year the Autumn display of colours has been truly stunning with so many shades of glowing oranges, rich reds and warm yellows. All our classes; Chestnut, Sycamore and Lime, are named after the trees in our school garden, meadow and Forest School woodland..

The first few weeks of term, the children were very excited as the conkers started to fall. They spent their break collecting conkers, seeing how far they could stretch around the playground or making Mandala patterns with them. The playground game yesterday lunchtime was catching leaves as they fell from the trees. This time of year is a true celebration of the wonder of nature.

At our weekly Forest School Sessions, held in our 'Whispering Wood', we celebrate the natural word in all its forms, come rain, wind or shine. Giving children an appreciation and often leading to those spiritual big questions about the world around them. The children develop an understanding and respect for the natural environment as they achieve, grow in confidence and self-esteem, through hands-on learning experiences in the Forest.

This term some of the activities have included:

Designing, planning and building a
Viking Longship,





Making damper bread
(as they would have
done in the Stone Age).



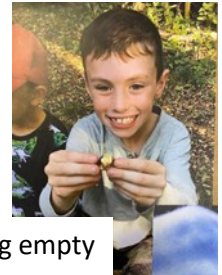
Sun paper printing
with natural objects



Planting new
trees



Making bird feeders



Investigating empty
snake eggs.



Framing nature



Making a rope swing



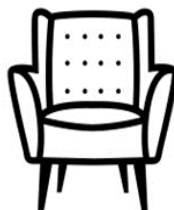
Having close-up looks at
beetles

Our Ethos when leaving the wood is “leave no trace”. We take away things that we have brought in. Leaving no litter behind, all will be removed. We will always treat others how we would want to be treated ourselves and always with respect. We are respectful to our environment and all that lives in it. Letting nature be celebrated

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South Hartismere Benefice

December 2024 Newsletter



The Church of England's theme for Advent and Christmas 2024 is **Follow the Star: Calm and Bright**, draws on the carol, Silent Night. Throughout Advent, there will be a focus on how to find Calm during this increasingly busy and often stressful period.

It is very easy for people to say 'Calm down', it is another thing to actually do it. December can feel like chaos – full of social events, presents to buy, a large to do list; the house to decorate and clean, extra- beds to make, the food to buy and prepare, Christmas parties and events and the pressure to produce the 'perfect Christmas'. If you are on your own, or have lost someone, it can be an extremely lonely and difficult time. In the midst of this chaos, our churches offer an opportunity to find peace, calm and a warm welcome.

"Silent Night" is about a calm and bright silent night, and the wonder of a tender and mild newborn child. The words were written in 1816 by a young priest in Austria and first performed on Christmas Eve 1819. It is believed to have first been translated into English in 1858. By 1914, 'Silent Night' was so familiar that, when German soldiers sang it in the World War I trenches, their British counterparts were able to respond in kind with the English version. It's nice to think that, maybe, for that one night, all was calm.

One of the reasons that this carol is so universally loved is the way it invites us into the still centre of the Christmas story, to contemplate Mary holding the new-born Jesus, the Light of the World. The angelic messages we hear in the story of Jesus' birth express the need for calm in the present ("Do not be afraid" ... "Fear not") with the hope of a bright future ("for you have found favour with God" ... "for behold I bring you tidings of great joy").

As we sing this Carol over the Christmas period, we can reflect on the words:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) Silent night! Holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
'round yon virgin mother and child!
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace. | 3) Silent night! Holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from Thy holy face
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth!
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth! |
| 2) Silent night! Holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight.
Glories stream from heaven afar,
heav'nly hosts sing, "Alleluia!
Christ the Saviour is born! | 4) Silent night! Holy night!
Wondrous star, lend thy light;
with the angels let us sing
"Alleluia" to our King:
"Christ the Saviour is born!
Christ the Saviour is born." |

From all in the South Hartismere Benefice we wish you a calm and peaceful Christmas as well as bright joy through the season. We look forward to welcoming you at one of our many services during Advent and Christmas.

Emma Morris
Schools and Families Minister

From the Parishes:

Baptism of Ivy Watson, Thornham Magna
In loving memory of Gillian Beeson, Stoke Ash



South Hartismere Benefice



DECEMBER 2024



Sunday 1st <i>The 1st Sunday of Advent</i>	Gislingham	10.30am	Benefice Holy Communion <i>Benefice Advent Rings blessed & lit</i>
	Thorndon	3.30pm	Christingle Workshop
	Thorndon	4.30pm	Christingle with Carols
Thursday 5th	Gislingham	7.00pm	Carol Service
Sunday 8th <i>The 2nd Sunday of Advent</i>	Mellis	10.30am	Holy Communion
	Stoke Ash	3.00pm	Carol Service
Tuesday 10th	Mellis	6.00pm	Carol Service
Sunday 15th <i>The 3rd Sunday of Advent</i>	Thornham Parva	10.30am	Holy Communion
	Yaxley	10.30am	Worship for All
	Thornham Magna	3.00pm	Carols with the GS Band
	Wetheringsett	6.00pm	Community Carol Service
Sunday 22nd <i>The 4th Sunday of Advent</i>	Thornham Magna	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion
	Wetheringsett	10.30am	Worship for All
	Thornham Parva	6.00pm	Carol Service
Tuesday 24th <i>Christmas Eve</i>	Gislingham	3.00pm	Crib Service
	Yaxley	4.00pm	Crib Service
	Stoke Ash	11.30pm	First Holy Communion of Christmas
Wednesday 25th <i>Christmas Day</i>	Gislingham	9.30am	Morning Praise
	Wetheringsett	10.30am	Holy Communion
	Thorndon	10.30am	Family Service
Sunday 29th <i>The 1st Sunday of Christmas</i>	Thorndon	10.30am	Benefice Holy Communion



Telephone Church BCP Holy Communion is on Thursdays at 11.00am

Contact



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Rural Dean of the Hartismere &
Hoxne Deanery
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Assistant Curate
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01379 309953

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/SouthHartismereChurches/>





South Hartismere Benefice Christmas Services - December 2024

Sunday 1st	Gislingham	10.30am	Holy Communion <i>with the Benefice Advent Rings to be lit and blessed</i>
	Thorndon	3.30pm	Christingle Workshop
	Thorndon	4.30pm	Christingle & Carol Service
Thursday 5th	Gislingham	7.00pm	Carol Service
Sunday 8th	Stoke Ash	3.00pm	Carol Service
Tuesday 10th	Mellis	6.00pm	Carol Service
Sunday 15th	Thornham Magna	3.00pm	Carol Service <i>with the Gislingham Silver Band</i>
	Wetheringsett	6.00pm	Community Carol Service
Sunday 22nd	Thornham Parva	6.00pm	Carol Service
Tuesday 24th Christmas Eve	Gislingham	3.00pm	Crib Service
	Yaxley	4.00pm	Crib Service
	Stoke Ash	11.30pm	First Holy Communion of Christmas
Wednesday 25th Christmas Day	Gislingham	9.30am	Christmas Morning Praise
	Wetheringsett	10.30am	Holy Communion
	Thorndon	10.30am	Christmas Family Service

**Christmas Blessings to
you all**





South Hartismere Benefice

JANUARY 2025

Sunday 5th January <i>The 2nd Sunday of Christmas Epiphany</i>	Thorndon Gislingham	10.00am 10.30am	Together @ 10 Holy Communion
Sunday 12th January <i>The Baptism of Christ</i>	Stoke Ash Mellis	10.30am 10.30am	Worship for All Holy Communion
Sunday 19th January <i>The 2nd Sunday of Epiphany</i>	Thornham Parva Thorndon Gislingham Thorndon	10.30am 10.30am 10.30am 4.00pm	Mattins Holy Communion Worship for All CONNECT
Sunday 26th January <i>The 3rd Sunday of Epiphany</i>	Wetheringsett Yaxley Thornham Magna	10.30am 10.30am 10.30am	Worship for All Worship for All Holy Communion

Telephone Church BCP Holy Communion is on Thursdays at 11.00am

Contact:



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Rural Dean of the Hartismere & Hoxne Deanery
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Do you have anything 'to say'? Any thoughts you would like to share with the rest of us— or just something you would like to 'get off your chest'

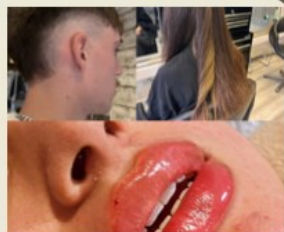
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The festive season can be a financially challenging time, and often borrowing money or using a credit card to fund Christmas can seem like your only option. But there are steps you can take to keep your spending under control and avoid falling into debt.

The first thing to do is make a budget and stick to it.

Consider who you're buying gifts for, what other seasonal expenses you have, and how much you can realistically afford to spend. Always keep receipts, or ask for gift receipts, in case you overspend and need to return something. And remember that household bills may be higher during this period due to colder weather and spending more time indoors.

If you've built up debt, please don't ignore bills or letters. Speak to the organisation you owe money to, as they may let you pay smaller amounts.

Pay 'priority debts' first, like rent, mortgage arrears, council tax, and energy bills. For other types of debt like credit cards or loans, gather all the information on what you owe, create a budget and contact your creditors to set up an affordable repayment plan. This might seem scary, but it's an important first step.

If your budget just doesn't add up and you need help to afford essentials like bills and food, see what cost of living support is available on the Citizens Advice website.

It's especially important to check if you're eligible for the Winter Fuel Payment, which will now only be paid to those who receive Pension Credit or other means-tested benefits. If you make a claim for Pension Credit by 21 December, you might still receive the Winter Fuel Payment.

If you do find yourself struggling financially during or after the holidays, don't panic. Support is out there, and Citizens Advice can help you understand what's available. We're here to help you find a way forward.

Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk can provide in depth advice on this issue and much more, including debt, finances, employment, benefits and family/relationships. You can contact them by phone on 01449 676060, visit in person at Milton House, 5 Milton Road South, Stowmarket IP14 1EZ or use the contact form at midsuffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us. Opening hours are Monday-Thursday 9.30am – 3.30pm and Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm.

Our office will be closed between 24th and 27th December and the 1st January. Our Eye and Needham Market outreach services will also not be available on Friday 20th and Friday 27th December

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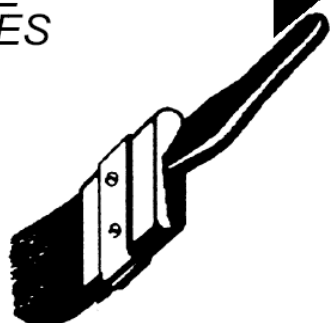
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A vibrant, abstract sculpture of a dog, possibly a Weimaraner, with a multi-colored pattern. The sculpture is primarily blue and black, with large areas of bright yellow, orange, and red. The dog is sitting and looking towards the right. The pattern consists of irregular, organic shapes and lines, giving it a textured, almost camouflage-like appearance. The background is plain white.

Suffolk
Libraries

discussions are ongoing with Suffolk County Council !

DEBENHAM LIBRARY RECOMMENDS

Row 1:

- The Boy on the Boat* by Lisa Thompson
- The Windsors Knit* by Mary Berry
- The Lightless Sky* by Michelle Magorian

Row 2:

- Barbara Kingsolver: Behind the Headlines* by Barbara Kingsolver
- The Daylight Marriage* by Kelly Armstrong
- Gathering Moss* by Susan Shaw

Row 3:

- America's Dirt* by Hank Klibanov
- Andrea Levy: The Long Song*
- John Fawcett: Training* by John Fawcett

Row 4:

- Between Earth and Garden* by Deborah Tall
- How to Pick Up an Egg* by Lisa Thompson
- A Terrible Kindness* by Lisa Thompson

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photocopying/scanning, CDs and audiobooks,
downloadable films/music/audiobooks/ebooks,
free reservations. The room is available for
hire outside opening hours*

debnam.library@suffolklibraries.co.uk

Facebook: DebenhamLibraryAndFriends

Tuesday: 0930 am –1300 pm Wednesday: 1500 –1930 pm

Saturday: 0900 am –1300 pm Sunday: 1200 –1600 pm

www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/visit/locations-and-times/debenham-library

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Ipswich Mobile Library Route 7

7H	<i>Brockford St</i>	<i>Old Griffin</i>	1245 – 1300
7I	<i>Wetheringsett</i>	<i>Hockey Hill</i>	1405 – 1420
7J	<i>Wetheringsett</i>	<i>Wetherup St</i>	1430 – 1445
7K	<i>Wetheringsett</i>	<i>Park Green</i>	1450 – 1505

Email: help@suffolklibraries.co.uk

Telephone: 01473 263838

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Next visit: Thursday 12th December; 4th January

WETHERINGSETT PARISH COUNCILLORS

<u>Parish Councillors</u>			
Cllr Darrell Howard	CHAIRMAN	darrell.howard@outlook.com	
Cllr Stephen Alderton		stephen_alderton@hotmail.com	
Cllr Elizabeth Cain		eccain@btinternet.com	
Cllr Mrs Rachel Leech		rachelleech67@btinternet.com	
Cllr Barry Lacey		sally.lacey@btconnect.com	01728 860273
Cllr Mrs Elizabeth Aldred		aldred.sons@gmail.com	01728 860482
Cllr Nigel Lingard		nigel.lingard@hotmail.co.uk	01449 766918
Cllr Lizzie Drury		equine.nutrition1972@gmail.com	07470 513211
Cllr Kaylee van Zyl		mrandmrskvanzyl@gmail.com	
Cllr Mrs June Weir		juneweir1@hotmail.com	
Cllr Tony Alston		tonyalston@hotmail.com	01449 766231
Parish Clerk: Mrs Lynne Cockerton		lynne.cockerton@btpopenworld.com	01728 862001
County & District Councillor : Cllr Andrew Stringer		Andrew.Stringer@midsuffolk.gov.uk	01449 780339
Stowmarket Safer Neighbourhood Team		Stowmarket.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk	101 (non emergency calls only)



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