

Tibenham Tidings

News from the Parish Council and the Community Hall Committee

Newsletter – Autumn 2021

Welcome to the Autumn edition of our newsletter. This newsletter is produced jointly by Tibenham Parish Council and Tibenham Community Hall. It is published twice a year, and this is the ninth edition we have published. The newsletter is hand delivered to every household in the parish by a small band of volunteers. We are very grateful to these volunteers even if we sometimes forget to say so.

We would all like to extend a warm welcome to the new residents who have arrived since the last newsletter earlier this year. We hope you will get some useful information from this newsletter; a very useful source of information on what's happening in the area, including advertisements from local businesses and services, is the Church and Parish Newsletter. This is published eleven times a year, and you can subscribe to it for an annual fee of £5 – the Editor is Alan Harris, who can be reached at alan.newsletter@btinternet.com or 01379 674427.

As this is our ninth edition, we would like to get some ideas from readers about topics or information you would like to see included in future issues. Better still, we'd love to have some of you readers sending in articles or items that we can include. Don't be shy – send things in to us by email, or call the Parish Clerk (contact details are inside).

Defibrillator: Located at the Greyhound Pub.

If you think someone is suffering cardiac arrest, this is what you do:

- stay with the patient
- call 999
- follow instructions

Included in this issue:

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Update on Drainage in The Street, Tibenham ✦ Community Hall ✦ A
brief History of Tibenham ✦ Living in Tibenham**

Contact Information

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Clerk – Tony Wainwright
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Member – Caroline Knight
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About Parish Council Meetings

Tibenham Parish Council meets on the second Wednesday of every other month – January, March, May, July, September and November. Meetings are held at Tibenham Community Hall and start at 7.30pm.

Members of the public are always welcome to attend Parish Council meetings. You can come along simply to observe, or you can participate in the public discussion, which starts in the first few minutes of each meeting. Members of the public are welcome to stay for the rest of the meeting, or can leave after the public discussion.

If you do decide to come to a meeting, you do not need to give your name and address (unless Covid precautions are in place).

Once a year there is also an Annual Parish Meeting. It is normally held in May, immediately before the May Parish Council Meeting. This is an opportunity for residents to air their views on any subject relevant to the people of Tibenham, and to find out what other people think.

Details and agendas of Parish Council meetings and the Annual Parish Meeting can be found on the PC's website, at tibenhampc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk. For more information please contact the Parish Clerk or any of the councillors – contact details are at the beginning of this newsletter and also on the website.

Vacancies for Councillors

At the time of writing, there are two vacancies for Parish Councillors. There have been some expressions of interest, but no definite arrangements have been made, so if you would like to find out more about it, please come along to the next Parish Council meeting to see who we are and what we get up to. The next meeting will be on Wednesday 10 November, in the Community Hall at 7.30pm. If you would like more information beforehand, please feel free to contact the chair or any of the councillors (contact details at the beginning of this newsletter).

Footpaths and Boardwalk



In the last newsletter we said that Norfolk Ramblers had not resumed operations after the lockdown, and that the boardwalk on Slough Lane was still unstable following the floods in December. We are now pleased to tell everyone that emergency repairs have been carried out, the eastern end of the boardwalk has been extended and firmly anchored, and it is now possible to mount and dismount that end of the boardwalk without making a great muddy leap or pole vaulting. The plan, as we write, is to complete the task of re-anchoring the whole length of the boardwalk to make sure it remains stable even if we get further flash flooding.

The weird weather we have had this year has led to unusually heavy growth, particularly nettles, brambles and some grasses, along some of our footpaths. This has meant overgrowth which has been too thick for most domestic strimmers, so we have not been able to keep up with footpath maintenance as much as we would have liked to. A few volunteers did manage earlier in the year to do some clearing, and we do appreciate their efforts very much. The County Council have also done some clearing along their scheduled routes, though this had less effect than most years because they use relatively lightweight machinery – the number of locked gates, illegal stiles and narrow pinch points mean that they cannot access some of our footpaths with heavier equipment (landowners please note!) They can only clear quite narrow paths, but it still helps to maintain our amenities for walkers.

During the summer we were able to get Peter of Norfolk Ramblers to come to Tibenham with his heavy duty brushcutter. We cleared a couple of badly overgrown footpaths – the first section of Narrow Lane, opposite the Greyhound, and the footpath that runs along the side of Kenhurst on Cargate and along past Tibenham Hall and emerges at Hall Bridge on Fen Road, and also a branch which heads north from behind Kenhurst and on to the River Tas and the beginning of Carlton Rode. We are grateful for the support that we and other parishes get from Norfolk Ramblers.

Most parishes around us have a Footpath Warden who keeps an eye on the footpaths and any problems with them. Normally, if there are any issues, such as overgrowth, broken bridges etc, the warden reports back to the Parish Council, who in turn report them to the County Council. Tibenham doesn't currently have a Footpath Warden. If anyone would like to take this on,

please contact the Parish Clerk or any of the councillors – contact details are at the beginning of this newsletter and on the Parish Council website.

If you spot any problems with footpaths, please let the Parish Council know, or report it yourself, or both. To report directly to the County Council, go to the Norfolk County Council website (Norfolk.gov.uk), and from the Home page, select: Roads and Transport > Report a Highways Problem > Report a public right of way or trails defect > and then select the type of defect and locate the problem on an interactive map. It's a bit clunky, but it should only take a few minutes to do.

The Greyhound Planning Application



Eighteen months ago, in April 2020, three planning applications were submitted for development on the land attached to the Greyhound public house. One was for two houses at the northern end of the land, another for conversion of an existing outbuilding into two B&B units, and a third was for three holiday lodges and six glamping pods. The application for the two houses was subsequently withdrawn, the application for the two B&BN units was then granted, and the application for the lodges and pods started to go through a series of changes which ended up as an application for seven holiday lodges. Throughout this time, members of the community in Tibenham along with the Parish Council registered a variety of objections to the plans.

Eventually, in June 2021, the application was put to the Development Management Committee (more commonly known as the Planning Committee) at South Norfolk House in Long Stratton. Because of Covid restrictions, members of the public were not allowed to attend the meeting in person, but they were able to watch it streamed live via YouTube. The committee members voted unanimously to approve the application despite the weight of opinion against it.

The Parish Council did not feel that the actions of the Case Officer, or the Committee Report (the document used to brief the committee before the meeting) or the conduct of the councillors forming the committee, represented the best interests of the community. Part of our function is to represent the

views and concerns of residents, and to do what we can to protect the rights of the community. In this case, we believe that important matters affecting the community, and valid concerns expressed by residents, were not given sufficient weight. As a result, the Parish Council submitted a formal complaint to South Norfolk District Council.

South Norfolk District Council did respond, but we felt that their response did not answer the points made in the formal complaint we submitted. As a result, the matter has now been referred to the Ombudsman, and we await a response.

An update on Drainage in The Street, Tibenham



Following the flooding of December 2020, we have been working with NCC Highways to improve the situation. Many people are aware that a drainage investigation was carried out by Norfolk Highways to find out why the drainage of The Street from Church Road to the outlet to the Beck did not fully function. Initially rodding the pipes from the gullies showed that there were a number of issues causing the blockages, including a BT pole that was put through the pipe, an electricity connection that also cut through the pipe, and some pipe collapses. Some of the pipework was typical of Victorian drainage.

Work was done in terms of digging out the ditches along The Street, and cleaning the pipes crossing under the road, and the ditch and pipe which discharges into the Beck. This work should improve the drainage along this section of The Street, but until the connections to all the highway gullies can be replaced water on the highway may be problematic during the winter. Norfolk highways are applying for a capital sum to replace the pipework but to put it under the Highway rather than in the verge as at present. This scheme which includes by passing the blocked access connection opposite Hill Road junction to reconnect the ditch opposite The Old Post Office. This is unlikely to be constructed until 2022 or 2023. Be aware that the proposed scheme will cause access issues in this section of The Street during construction.

Living in Tibenham – A personal perspective

We have lived in Tibenham for over 14 years now, and love the life here, if somewhat different from where we came. Living in a rural village here has brought many positive advantages, not least the environment, the Greyhound, the Community Hall, and even more importantly the people, but there are a few issues that can affect our daily lives from time to time. Isolation, Lack of shops, slower broadband, no public transport, although there is Dial-a Ride available. The Car service that was available for medical appointments has stopped due to retirement and has not been replaced. These are the disadvantages of living here in Tibenham, but with adjustments we have overcome all these issues. However for most people moving here, and there has been a good number of people moving into the village during the last year, this is where they want to be, somewhere where there is a thriving Community.

As a Community we have come through the Pandemic relatively unscathed, there have been local cases, but now we need as a community to look forward again and rebuild those positive activities that have not been able to take place.

Things are changing, and some issues are being resolved. High speed broadband is expected to be arriving in Tibenham in the near future. There are reports of County Broadband installing infrastructure in Cherry Tree Road and Diss Road. A start at last!

The flooding in Tibenham in 2020 has prompted the Parish Council to restart work on an Emergency Plan based on a format provided by Norfolk County Council, a reasonably simple plan to provide support in the event of a major problem, i.e flooding, major electricity failure, or even snow. This involves understanding the more personal issues that arise for you and identifying resources, people and transport, to help provide support, shopping etc. This is not intended to intrude into your personal circumstances but firstly being aware of what you need if a situation arises and who to contact. The Parish Council proactively looks after footpaths, of which there are many around the village, many of which are well used, and these are a great way of exploring around the village.

The Greyhound is once again on the market after the long battle with Planning. The big disappointment was that the improvements required to the kitchen were not carried out by the current owner, and the result is that Rob cannot provide food for the foreseeable future. However the saying use it or lose it still stands, there is a hardcore of regular users but it still needs more people to support the pub to see us through until a new owner comes in and hopefully makes the pub more attractive and more viable in the long term.

The Community Hall is working on a full programme of events for the rest of the year, so please support these events where you can. Details on the item about the Hall.

If you have something to say about living in Tibenham, why not write it down and submit it to the parish Council for future use.

Tibenham Community Hall



I present a very different item for Tibenham Tidings this time with a much more positive tone. You will be aware that we have been seeking additional members for the Committee and following the Hall Annual General Meeting we now have four new Committee members. We would like to thank everyone for their support during the past year, and now look forward to an improved future.

We were finally able to hold an AGM in August this year which was well attended by members of the public, some seeking information about how we are approaching the future after such a difficult year. A new sub-Committee has been formed to promote the Arts at the Hall, and we will be looking at improving our publicity to get the information to a wider audience.

The new members have now joined the committee and are taking up roles that will spread the work, making it easier for the current members. Things are looking up for the Hall.

The new playground installed on 10 August 2020 was finally given an official opening on 7 August, with Ian Allen, a local celebrity of Button Moon fame, doing the honours for us. The opening event was accompanied by live music,

and a large number of people came along to enjoy the day. We would like to thank Emma, Peter and friends who provided the music and supported us to put on this event. Publicity for this opening was generated by a visit of Norfolk Radio's Treasure Hunt Julie Reinger to the Hall the Sunday before giving us an opportunity to get on the radio. The event was also a fundraiser for Nelson's Journey, a Norfolk Charity for bereaved families.

The Annual Produce Show and Harvest Supper were held on 18 September at the Hall. We had a good response with many people bringing forward produce and crafts for the show, showing off their endeavours during a difficult summer. There were a large number of exhibits making a good competition. The overall winner of the Produce Show, who also produced the Best in Show item was Emma Fenton-Hawes, closely followed by G. Burrows who lost by only one point. 35 people sat down to the Supper, which was followed by an auction of items left from the Show. All proceeds go the Hall. The regular events are running normally, with the weekly Thursday Drop in coffee mornings at 10.30-12.30, the Tibenham café on the last Saturday of the month 11-2.00, Light Exercise on Tuesdays at 10.0-11.00, Table tennis on Fridays at 2.00-4.00, and badminton on Thursdays 5.30-7.30. We have space for more people at these events, so if you wish to join in just contact us.

We are however being careful at the Hall and maintaining some of the guidance on Covid to keep people safe, by hand sanitisation on entry, masks on entry until seated are voluntary. We are setting out tables with larger spacing to provide more separation of people and ensuring everything is being done to make catering safe. Our aim is to provide a safe environment to give people the confidence to get out and meet others and enjoy themselves.

Autumn/ Winter programme at Tibenham Community Hall.

We have planned a full programme for the upcoming months to give everyone a chance to visit the Hall and enjoy this great facility in the Village. We hope there is something for everybody, why not come along?

Saturday 30 October: Tibenham Café 11-2pm, Light Lunch, Sandwiches, Cakes and refreshments. Table Tops available, 100 Club Draw. A chance to meet up over lunch.

Saturday 20 November: Annual Craft Fayre, Local Handicrafts and Produce, a chance to find unusual gifts. Entry free and refreshments available. Some tables still available at £10 contact Ann Gooderham on 01379 677289

Friday 26 November: Village Quiz Night and Supper, 7.30pm. Teams of up to 6 but there are always places available in teams. Contact Joan Woodcock on 01953 860271. The Bar is open for Beers, Wines and soft drinks.

Friday 10 December: Christmas Prize Bingo, 7.30. Light Refreshments, bring the family for a fun night.

Saturday 11 December: Christmas Starts Here, an evening of music and entertainment performed by local people and friends. Details to follow.

A brief introduction to the History and People in and around Tibenham

This is a very brief introduction to some interesting facts about the history of Tibenham and some of its families. The information has been supplied by Celia Bradley who has carried out much research into the village and has much information which she has shared with others. We are hoping to restart the History Group at the Community Hall to create more interest in the history of Tibenham. The group already has much more information about the Village, but if you have information that would contribute to this please contact me on timson25@btinternet.com.

Tibenham is recorded in the Domesday Book. The spelling of Tibenham can be found in a variety of forms throughout its history, including Tybbenham. It is suggested that there is some evidence at the Church that parts of the building date back to Roman times. The main crop at the time of the Domesday Book was beans.

Tibenham is a rural village with few industries or other employers. Continues to be mostly farming only but needing far fewer employees than in the last century. One of the consequences of the reduction in farm labourers in the 1800s, down from over 850 to the current 350, was the reduction in need for tied properties, many of which were sold or demolished. There were 10 shops in Tibenham in the 1800's, few of which lasted into the 20th. century. The Old Post Office closed in the late 1980s.

Some wealthy families lived in Tibenham and supported the likes of the Dukes of Norfolk i.e. the Herne and Buxton families. Channonz Hall, an Elizabethan Manor House, part of which survives as a home, became home to both families through a marriage of a Buxton son to a Herne daughter. It was a Buxton who was one of the only people allowed to visit Duke of Norfolk while he was held imprisoned in London. The Buxtons had their own balcony

in the Church, still in place today.

In 1668 no entries were made in the Church Registers, but there are over 3600 entries in the Church registers from 1656. The full registers are available to view. Below are some interesting people from the past, all found from various records.

GILBERT HENRY; 'The coming of the Friars' The Plague 1349. At the time of the plague Gilbert Henry was caught after stealing a quantity of malt and barley. Not satisfied he went back into the property where John Smith lay dead on his bed after succumbing to the plague. Gilbert removed his waistcoat and other garments and sold them. For this crime Gilbert was fined 6d. for each item.

Mrs. CROSSMAN; Taken from The Foxes Book of Martyrs - There was a time when to attend church was compulsory and absence without good reason was not accepted. The penalties could be harsh. It was on such a Sunday that Mrs. Crossman, from the Long Row decided not to attend church as her baby would not stop crying. After the church service men went to her home to find out why she was not in attendance. On entering the house, the sound of a crying baby could be heard. On seeing Mrs. Crossman they enquired about her absence. She told them that the baby had not stopped crying. While the men were at the house the baby stopped crying and this was seen as a good sign. Mrs. Crossman's explanation from being absent from church was then accepted.

JOHN & YELVERTON CROWE - from near Carleton Rode. It appears John Crowe married Elishua Yelverton twice. First at Carleton Rode, Norfolk UK about 1615, and again in 1636 in Massachusetts. John and Elishua's daughter Nasare or Nazareth (after Elishua's mother) died before the family left for America and was buried in Buckenham.

Elishua's parents were Edward Yelverton and Nazareth Bedingfield. The Crowe family left for America in 1634 and are recorded as some of the earliest settlers at Plymouth Colony. John and Yelverton Crowe were recorded in occupation directory for Silversmiths.

Report A Problem

A lot of common problems can be reported direct to the right people by members of the public either online or by telephone. You are also welcome to inform the Parish Council that you have reported a problem in case the problem needs to be followed up in the future.

Fly Tipping and Littering www.south-norfolk.gov.uk enter “fly tipping” in the search box and choose “fly tipping” or “littering” and enter the details online or call **01508 533701**

Potholes and Road Surfaces www.norfolk.gov.uk enter “pothole” in the search box and select either “potholes” or “report a problem” for other issues, and enter the details online or call **0344 800 8020** (working hours only) or email **information@norfolk.gov.uk** with name, address, telephone number and postcode

Obstructed Verges, Overgrown Hedges & Trees www.norfolk.gov.uk enter “verges” and select “Trees, Hedges and Verges” – at the bottom of the page select “report a problem” and enter details online or call **0344 800 8020** or email **information@norfolk.gov.uk** with name, address, telephone number and postcode

Hare Coursing If you suspect hare coursing is happening now, call **999**
If you suspect hare coursing has happened recently, call **101**

Police Emergency call **999**

Police Non-Emergency call **101** (including reporting traffic infringements)

Power Cut call **105**

Flooding www.norfolk.gov.uk enter “flood” in the search box and select “Report a Flood” or call **0344 800 8020** (working hours only) or email **information@norfolk.gov.uk** with name, address, telephone number and postcode

Stray Dog or Lost Dog www.south-norfolk.gov.uk enter “stray” in the search box and select “stray and lost dogs” or call **01508 533701**

Footpath Problems (Overgrown/Bridge Damaged or Missing/Sign Missing etc) www.norfolk.gov.uk enter “public rights of way” and then select “about public rights of way” or scroll down to the map and click on the map to report a problem or call **0344 800 8020** (working hours only) or email **information@norfolk.gov.uk** with name, address, telephone number and postcode

Damaged Road Signs www.norfolk.gov.uk enter “road signs” in the search box or call **0344 800 8020** (working hours only) or email with name, address, telephone number and postcode to email: **information@norfolk.gov.uk**

Damaged or Missing Street Nameplates www.south-norfolk.gov.uk enter “street nameplate” in the search box, choose “Street Naming and House Numbering” and find “report a problem to us” or call **01508 533701**