

Felsham & Gedding

# VILLAGE NEWS

Issue 202, December 2020



**Welcome** to the December edition of your Felsham & Gedding Village News.

As we all know this has been a very different year. Normally I'd be reminding you how busy November had been and telling you about everything going on in the villages, Christmas parties, Christingle & Carol services and welcoming some of you to some of these events with a glass of mulled wine, but not this year.

This should be my year to host the family for Christmas. Will it happen? Who knows? What with family bubbles and not being able to swap them it doesn't make for easy choices for most families.

It's just left for me to say a huge thank you to all the Village News Team, editors, printers and deliverers and also those who submit articles or advertise with us. Without you all this magazine would not exist.

And to wish everyone

*A very Merry Christmas*

*and*

*A Happy New Year*

*Tricia*

**Next Copy Date:** 20/12/2020

Please be aware that items submitted after the deadline cannot be guaranteed to appear in the magazine.

### **Copy Submissions**

Email: [fgvillagenews@gmail.com](mailto:fgvillagenews@gmail.com) or call Jo Tavernor on 01449 737793

### **Advertising Email:**

[fgvillagenewsadverts@gmail.com](mailto:fgvillagenewsadverts@gmail.com) or call Jo Tavernor on 01449 737793

### **Compliments, Complaints and Suggestions**

The Village News welcomes your feedback. Do you have any comments about what we do, what's going well, anything you'd like us to change?

### **Newsletter General Policy**

We do publish acknowledgements, articles of general interest, artistic works and similar.

We do publish factual material from recognised organisations.

We do publish to the Village Website at <http://felsham.onesuffolk.net>

We do not publish defamatory, rude, blasphemous, racial or other inappropriate material.

We reserve the right to edit contributions to suit publication needs.

We are reliant on contributions from many sources, taken in good faith, and cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions.

Copyright waiver is presumed implicit on all submissions unless clearly stated otherwise.

# Felsham and Gedding Village Hall Christmas

## Raffle!



Prizes include:

- **A Christmas hamper**
- **A meal for 2 kindly donated by  
The Six Bells, Felsham**
- **A fresh turkey kindly donated by the Truins at Elwood**
- **And many more!**



Tickets included in this Village News  
or available in the community shop  
or contact Jo on 07855321183

Winning tickets to be drawn on  
**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> Dec** in the  
community shop.

Thank you for your support.

# Taylor's Solid Fuels LTD

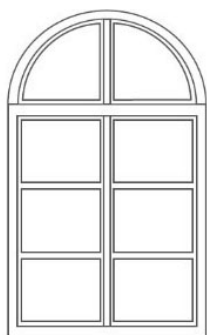
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## Letters to the Editor

**Our heartfelt thanks** to all our friends in Felsham and Gedding who have sent cards, flowers, letters and e-mails and have called or phoned expressing their sympathy in our loss of Catherine. She enjoyed the many years she had lived here and although we are desolated by her absence, your love and concern is easing the pain and making life bearable.

From Beryl Meed, John, Isabelle, Tom and Oliver

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**A big thank you** to Felsham Charity for your continued support of Village Friends at Christmas time. Although sadly we are unable to hold our annual Christmas party we do hope to deliver "Christmas cheer" to all those who usually come along to the event.

A Christmas tea, goody box and present will be delivered to all.

For some time now we have been delivering our monthly newsletter and tea boxes to all members of Village Friends and will continue to do this

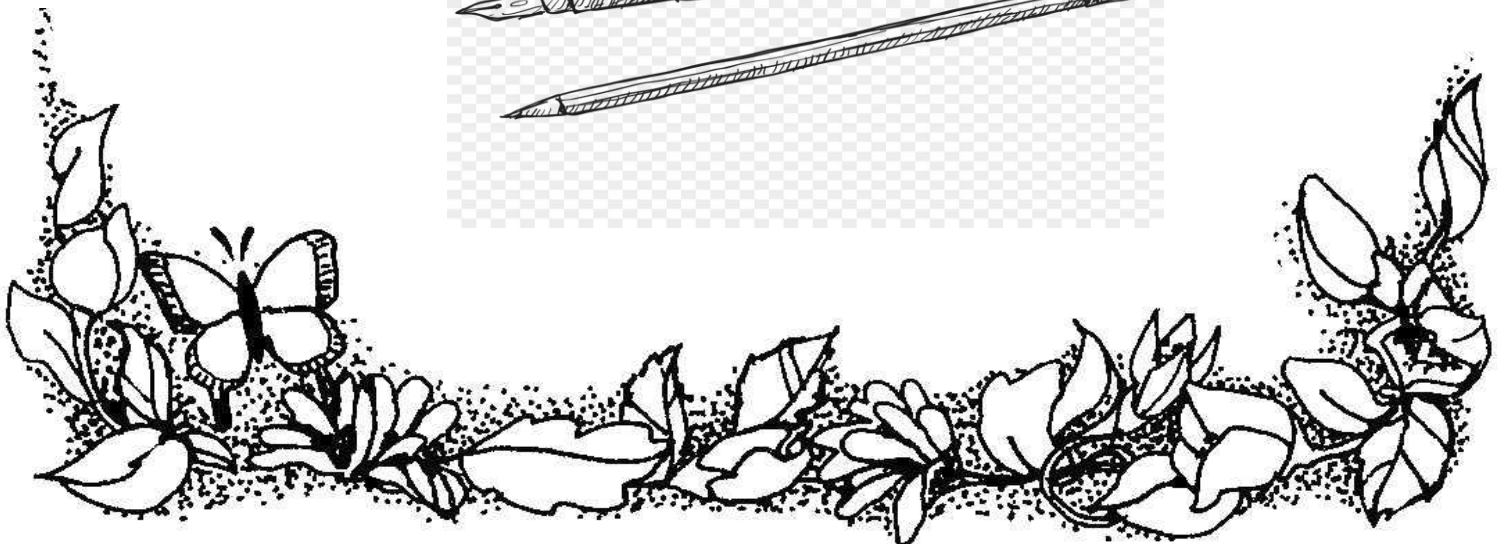
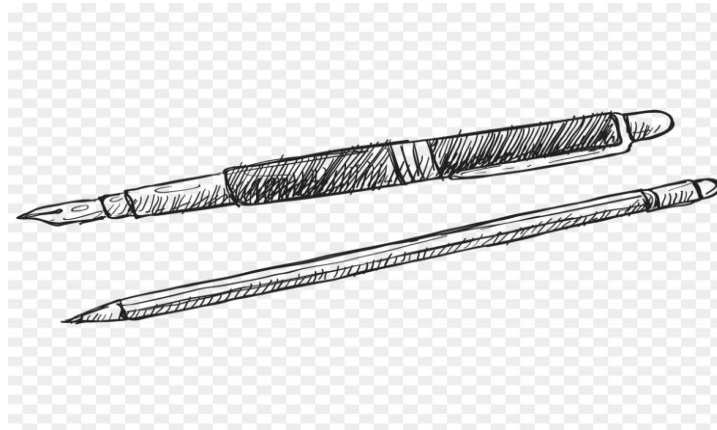
.Sue Jell

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**I would like to thank everyone** for the cards, presents and good wishes I received on my 80th birthday on the 24th of November.

Regards to all.

Rose.



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Patron Her Majesty The Queen

Felsham & Gedding Branch,  
Royal British Legion,  
8, Lime Walk,  
Felsham,  
Bury St. Edmunds,  
Suffolk.  
IP30 9DP  
Tel. 01449 737809  
19<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

Dear Villagers,

Unfortunately, owing to the current Covid 19 guidance and restrictions, door to door collections on behalf of the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal could not be carried out for the first time in memory.

Nevertheless, a number of local businesses agreed to allow us to place a Poppy box within their respective establishments and, I am pleased to say that, thanks to the generosity of these businesses and the villagers of Felsham & Gedding, we were able to raise the magnificent sum of £374.76 which has been forwarded for inclusion in the Suffolk County total for 2020.

~~Thank you to everyone who assisted with this effort and thank you all for your generosity, which is greatly appreciated.~~

Thank you once again.

Cyril Norman,

Branch Poppy Appeal Organiser,  
Felsham & Gedding Royal British Legion.



The Royal British Legion. Registered No. 219279 under the Charities Act 1960

# Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk

Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk provide advice on problems at work, help people struggling to pay their bills and work out if people are getting all the financial help they are entitled to. We are a local charity and our advice is free.

Opening times: Monday - Thursday, 9.30am – 3.30pm  
Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm

Call us on **01449 676060** or visit **[www.midsuffolkcab.org.uk](http://www.midsuffolkcab.org.uk)**

If you have any questions please let us know. We are keen to do everything we can to support people in our community during the coronavirus crisis.

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The logo for House To Home Decorating features a stylized illustration of a paint roller with a black handle and a white roller head. The roller head is positioned over a grey rectangular banner with a decorative, scalloped right edge. The text "House To Home" is written in a light grey, sans-serif font above the banner, and "Decorating" is written in a larger, bold, black, sans-serif font on the banner itself.

House To Home  
**Decorating**

Contact Claire Marks

Tel: 07895 277357

Email:

[claire.marks@housetohomedecorating.co.uk](mailto:claire.marks@housetohomedecorating.co.uk)

Web: [www.housetohomedecorating.co.uk](http://www.housetohomedecorating.co.uk)



# Allotment Notes

Not a good year for the World, what with Covid19, political instability in many parts, corruption, inequality *et al.* But, a good year in our allotment gardens:

Each plot taken and productive and we do have people asking to join when a plot becomes vacant.

So a small success story in Felsham.

I have suggested before that an association of allotment holders could be a possible benefit to gardeners with the sharing of seeds, equipment, manure etc. and sometimes help with difficult tasks. Basically, a communal group helping each other with difficult tasks and jobs which would be a benefit to the group and the wider community. Hedge and footpath maintenance for example.

If each allotment holder could email me at: [felshamallotments@btinternet.com](mailto:felshamallotments@btinternet.com) I can gauge what interest there is and start the process of inauguration in the New Year.



One problem has been reported to the Charity; there have been a couple of occasions where garden rubbish has been dumped on an allotment. This is not acceptable as Mid-Suffolk Council provide a brown bin collection service and green rubbish bags for garden waste. The green bags are on sale in the shop.

Brian.

For the Felsham Charity.



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### **Create // Lose yourself in one of our regular creative activities**

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### **Connect // Find what connects people in your village**

Our artists will collaborate with village residents to create artworks, drawing on the many and varied ways in which communities connect.

### **Community // Meet up with others... albeit remotely**

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For more information on any of these activities, or if you would like to receive our activity packs in the post, please contact Carrie or Candida:

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## Census 2021 will provide a snapshot of modern society

Households across Felsham & Gedding will soon be asked to take part in Census 2021.

The census is a once-in-a-decade survey that gives us the most accurate estimate of all the people and households in England and Wales. It has been carried out every decade since 1801, with the exception of 1941.

It will be the first run predominantly online, with households receiving a letter with a unique access code, allowing them to complete the questionnaire on their computers, phones or tablets.

“A successful census will ensure everyone from local government to charities can put services and funding in the places where they are most needed,” Iain Bell, deputy national statistician at the Office for National Statistics, said.

“This could mean things like doctors’ surgeries, schools and new transport routes. That’s why it is so important everyone takes part and we have made it easier for people to do so online on any device, with help and paper questionnaires for those that need them.”

Census day will be on March 21, but households across the country will receive letters with online codes allowing them to take part from early March.

The census will include questions about your sex, age, work, health, education, household size and ethnicity. And, for the first time, there will be a question asking people whether they have served in the armed forces, as well as voluntary questions for those aged 16 and over on sexual orientation and gender identity.

Results will be available within 12 months, although personal records will be locked away for 100 years, kept safe for future generations.

For more information, visit [census.gov.uk](https://www.census.gov.uk).



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# How to shop online safely this Christmas

As if 2020 hasn't been an unusual enough year, many of us are now thinking about Christmas. With the pandemic still very much with us, it's anybody's guess what the festive season will bring ... not least when it comes to getting together, going away and how we celebrate.

Two things are certain before and over Christmas: Most of us will be buying presents and other seasonal goods online, more than ever before. And it will still be a favourite time of year for scammers, who always regard Christmas and Black Friday shoppers as perfect targets for fraud.

We always have a lot on our minds at this time of year, but right now we have the added consideration of our own and loved ones' health and wellbeing, as well as possible work and money uncertainties. And a host of other distractions brought about by the current situation. That's why it's especially important to safeguard yourself, your family and finances when you're online.

**We've come up with these expert, easy-to-follow safety tips to help protect you from falling victim to seasonal scams.**

- When you're shopping online, **make sure websites are authentic** by carefully checking the address is spelled correctly. Ideally, type it in rather than clicking on a link in an email, text or post. It's easy for scammers to set up fake websites that are very similar to the real thing.
- When you're paying, **make sure the page is secure** by checking that addresses begin with 'https' ('s' is for secure) and there's a closed padlock in the address bar. An additional word of warning: this means that the page is secure, but the site could still be operated by fraudsters.
- Many advertisements for items such as gifts, holidays and events on **social media and online forums** are genuine, but be aware that others are fraudulent. Be extra vigilant about checking that such ads are authentic.
- However desperate you are to buy that late gift or an item that's in short supply, **don't pay for anything by transferring money** directly to people or companies you don't know. If it's a fraud, it's doubtful the bank will be able to recover or refund your money. If you can, pay by credit card. The same goes for holidays, travel and tickets.
- **Log out of the web page or app** when payment is completed. Simply closing it may not log you out automatically.
- **Fake or counterfeit goods** are of inferior quality, contravene copyright law and affect the livelihoods of workers who make the real thing. They can also be dangerous to users. Don't buy them intentionally – however cheap or 'authentic' they appear – and do all you can to make sure what you're buying is authentic.
- **Avoid 'free' or 'low-cost' trials** – whether for the latest handset or slimming pills – without thoroughly reading the small print and trusted reviews. You could be signing up for large monthly direct debits which are very hard to cancel.
- Christmas is a favourite time for scammers to send **fraudulent emails, texts or DMs, or post fraudulent offers on social media**. At this time of year, with the increase in internet shopping, fake parcel firm delivery notifications are commonplace attachments or links, as are emails and other messages featuring 'special offers' and 'prizes'. **Don't click on links** in emails, texts or posts that you're not expecting, and don't open unexpected email attachments.



Police are issuing a warning to residents across Suffolk following an attempted doorstep fraud in Stowmarket.

The incident occurred at 9am this morning, Wednesday 4 November, in the vicinity of Phoenix Way.

Two men knocked on the door of a house in the area and told the occupant that she owed them £100 for unpaid Amazon purchases, which she knew was not true and so the men subsequently left. Shortly after this, the same woman then received a phone call from an unknown number, with the caller claiming she needed to pay for items bought on her Amazon account. However, she had already double-checked with Amazon that there were no payments outstanding.

The two men who called at the door are described as follows:

- Male one: white, aged in his 20s, heavy build and blond hair. He was wearing a gold chain and numerous other items of gold jewellery
- Male two: mixed race, aged in his early 20s, of slim build and wearing a black converse tracksuit

They did not make any threats towards the woman whose house they called at, or make any attempts to enter the property. They walked off along a footpath, heading in the general direction of Mortimer Road

Anyone with information about this incident is asked to contact Stowmarket Neighbourhood Response Team, quoting reference: 63986/20.

Website – <http://www.suffolk.police.uk/contact-us/existing-report-update>

Email – [Grant.Stephens@suffolk.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Grant.Stephens@suffolk.pnn.police.uk)

Phone – Call 101

Crimestoppers – Contact the independent charity Crimestoppers 100% anonymously on 0800 555 111, or via their online form: [www.crimestoppers-uk.org](http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org)

Please note in the event of an emergency you should always call 999

More information on common types of fraud and scams - and how to avoid becoming a victim can be found on the Suffolk Constabulary website:

<http://www.suffolk.police.uk/sites/suffolk/files/fraudprevention1.pdf>

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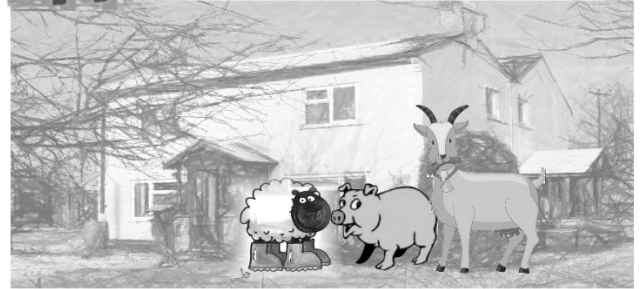
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# December 2020

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thurs
	1	2 Burger-Off VHCP - 4pm – 8.30pm Table Tennis VH, 7.30pm <b>CANCELLED</b>	John's Fresh Call 01449 Mermaid Fish VHCP – 6 –
7 John's Fresh Fruit & Veg Call 01449 736578 Yoga, VH, 6pm <b>CANCELLED</b>	8	9 Burger-Off VHCP - 4pm – 8.30pm Carpet Bowls VH, 7.30pm <b>CANCELLED</b>	John's Fresh Call 01449 Mermaid Fish VHCP – 6 –
14 John's Fresh Fruit & Veg Call 01449 736578 Yoga, VH, 6pm <b>CANCELLED</b>	15 Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm Virtual Access via Zoom	16 Burger-Off VHCP - 4pm – 8.30pm Table Tennis VH, 7.30pm <b>CANCELLED</b>	John's Fresh Call 01449 Mermaid Fish VHCP – 6 –
21 John's Fresh Fruit & Veg Call 01449 736578 Yoga, VH, 6pm <b>CANCELLED</b>	22 7pm Celebrating Christmas Carols, Felsham	23 Burger-Off VHCP - 4pm – 8.30pm Carpet Bowls VH, 7.30pm <b>CANCELLED</b>	John's Fresh Call 01449
28 <b>RECYCLING BIN</b> 	29	30	John's Fresh Call 01449



day	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<p>3</p> <p>Fruit &amp; Veg 736578</p> <p>&amp; Chips 6.30pm</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Fresh Fish, VHCP, 10:05am</p> <p><b>BLACK BIN</b></p> 	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>10</p> <p>Fruit &amp; Veg 736578</p> <p>&amp; Chips 6.30pm</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Fresh Fish, VHCP, 10:05am</p> <p><b>RECYCLING BIN</b></p> 	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>
<p>17</p> <p>Fruit &amp; Veg 736578</p> <p>&amp; Chips 6.30pm</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Fresh Fish, VHCP, 10:05am</p> <p>Library Van Gedding Village sign, 10.10am VHCP, 11.40am</p> <p><b>BLACK</b></p> 	<p>19</p> <p>Film Night, VH, 7pm</p> <p><b>CANCELLED</b></p>	<p>20</p> <p>10am Family@Church</p> <p>4pm Celebrating Christmas Carols, Gedding</p>
<p>24</p> <p>Fruit &amp; Veg 736578</p> <p>9pm Holy Communion, Felsham</p>	<p>25</p> <p>10am Christmas Day Communion (BCP) Gedding</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>31</p> <p>Fruit &amp; Veg 736578</p>			

**Cockfield Benefice Services – December 2020**  
**please see website for updated information should the**  
**lockdown continue past 2nd December**

<p>All morning services will be made available on the benefice facebook page via  <a href="https://www.facebook.com/cockfieldbenefice/posts">https://www.facebook.com/cockfieldbenefice/posts</a>          For services with * please contact Rev Sharon or the relevant Churchwarden if          you wish to attend the service for social distancing purposes.</p>	
6th December - 2nd Sunday in Advent	10am Morning Prayer, Cockfield
13th December - 3rd Sunday in Advent	10am Communion, Cockfield
Tuesday 15th December	7pm Celebrating Christmas Carols, Cockfield*
Wednesday 16th December	7pm Celebrating Christmas Carols, Bradfield St George*
20th December - 4th Sunday in Advent	10am Family@Church 4pm Celebrating Christmas Carols, Gedding*
Monday 21st December	7pm Celebrating Christmas Carols, Lt Whelnetham*
Tuesday 22nd December	7pm Celebrating Christmas Carols, Felsham*
Wednesday 23rd December	7pm Celebrating Christmas Carols, Bradfield St Clare*
Thursday 24th December Christmas Eve	3pm Christingle Crib Service, Cockfield 9pm Holy Communion, Felsham 11.30pm Midnight Communion, Cockfield
Friday 25th December Christmas Day	10am Christmas Day Communion - Bradfield St George* 10am Christmas Day Communion (BCP) - Gedding

A service of Celtic Morning Prayer is held every Tuesday at Cockfield at 9am  
*Please note these services may be subject to change – for up-to-date service times see  
 the benefice website at [www.cockfieldbenefice.com](http://www.cockfieldbenefice.com)*

Dear Friends

At the time of writing this article Advent is two weeks away but I am now planning the final details of our Christmas services. Planning has been made a little difficult this year due to the pandemic, and although there is light at the end of tunnel with the good news of the vaccine, the times ahead remain uncertain. Our hope is that we will be able to gather together to celebrate the season as we normally do - albeit in a slightly different way this year.

What we are unable to do at the moment is to sing together. I know that folk have missed congregational singing more than anything else at our services. There's something about singing familiar hymns and songs that brings people together. Singing together allows us to express our feelings and emotions in a way that nothing else does. You only have to visit a football match or a pop concert as well as a Church service to know this. The physical, spiritual and emotional effects of singing are well documented. I could blind you with the science, but basically singing makes us feel good, and is good for us!

I'm afraid we still can't have congregational singing in Church until the danger of Covid-19 has passed, but that does not mean that singing will stop in our Churches altogether. This year a small group of singers will be singing the familiar carols that we know and love at our Christmas services. You will see from the rota that I have named these services: 'Celebrating Christmas Carols'. I do hope that you will be able to join us at a service to hear the carols, to hear the familiar story of the birth of Jesus, and to pray together for the life of our nation and our community.

I know that for many Christmas will not be the same, but I also know that our Lord will be with us, sharing our joys and our sorrows.

So may I take this opportunity to wish all readers of Village News a blessed and peaceful Christmas.

Yours in Christ,

Sharon

Reverend Canon Sharon Potter, Rector of the Cockfield Benefice,

revsharon@btinternet.com, 01284 828599 or 07825 086063



## Parish Report – October 2020

Councillor

*Penny Otton*

Meadowside  
High Street  
Rattlesden, Bury St Edmunds  
IP30 0RA



### **Children’s Centres cuts given go-ahead by Scrutiny Committee**

Following the Cabinet’s decision in August to close 10 children’s centres, my group joined forces with the Labour group to challenge this decision. Our challenge focused on concerns over the lack of financial analysis and the lack of clarity over the new outreach model. The challenge was discussed by the Scrutiny Committee on 11 September. Unfortunately, the majority of the Committee voted against our challenge and endorsed the Cabinet’s decision.

**MOTION TO HAVE 20MPH IN SUFFOLK.** My group put forward a motion to ask Suffolk to introduce 20mph in rural and residential areas. We feel that now is the time to follow other councils and even countries such as Wales to start this now. RoSPA supports the idea as do many safety organisations. I am very sorry to say this was voted down by the administration, saying that it would be too difficult and expensive.

### **Suffolk County Council decides to oppose Sizewell C**

The Cabinet at Suffolk County Council agreed on 22 September that they can no longer support EDF Energy’s proposals for Sizewell C in their current form. However, the Cabinet maintained their support for the principle of a new nuclear power station in Suffolk. The Cabinet’s key concerns were regarding transport impacts, site design and the environmental impact on the Suffolk coast. The Cabinet also believe that the current proposals do not sufficiently avoid, minimise, mitigate or compensate impacts of the proposed development.

Considering the enormous number of issues I asked “why cannot SCC just say NO now”? I make no apology for including this as the impact on HGV’s on the A14 and increase in goods freight on the train line will be significant.

These concerns will be submitted as Relevant Representations to the Planning Inspectorate. The final decision will be the government.

### **Financial impact of Covid-19 on Suffolk County Council budget**

Suffolk County Council has published their Quarter 1 Budget Monitoring Report. This focuses heavily on the impact of Covid-19 on the council’s finances.

The council is currently forecasting a net overspend of just £0.4m (0.1%) for the 2020-21 budget. The headline figures are:

- Additional expenditure from core budget - £41.2m
  - o £43.9m – additional expenditure and lost income due to Covid-19
  - o Offset by underspend of £2.7m from non-Covid business as usual activity
- Additional funding - £40.8m
  - o £39.1m – non-ring-fenced Covid-19 grants from the Government
  - o £1.7m – additional funding from business rates

### **Boundary review restarts with consultation on draft recommendations**

Following a delay due to Covid-19, the Boundary Commission has restarted the boundary review for Suffolk with a consultation on their draft recommendations, which include a reduction to 70 councillors. Any boundary changes will not be implemented until the 2025 elections. I still believe that, with the huge increase in population due to the number of planning approvals, the number should remain at 75.

The draft recommendations and boundary changes are available to view on the Boundary Commission's website: <https://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/eastern/suffolk/suffolk-county-council>. The consultation on these recommendations will run from 15 September – 23 November and can be found here: <https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/have-your-say/18495>

**WORK ON A14;** following a meeting with highways England you will be informed of the upcoming work between the Woolpit and Beyton junctions from October 19<sup>th</sup> for 7 weeks, from 8pm to 6am. There will be local diversions. I asked why they cannot replace the concrete section at the same time; they will replace signs and work on slip roads. I said they must liaise with SCC on the flooding issues.

**MID SUFFOLK;** at the Council's AGM I was proposed as chair of council, however this was voted down by the outgoing chairs casting vote. All other chairs of committee were decided by the new chairs casting vote, thereby giving all to the current administration.

**PLANNING;** John Pateman-Gee has been having discussions with the agents on the application at the Six Bells, I have forwarded to Felsham Parish Council for their comments.

**DIGITAL PARKING ;** new parking meters will now be digital in Stowmarket.

**ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING POINTS;** there will be some on the car parks in Stowmarket.

**GEDDING;** Richard Vass has offered to take this on. He has written a letter to all in Gedding which I have delivered for him. Hopefully Gedding Parish meeting can get started again

## Parish Report November 2020

Councillor

*Penny Otton*

Meadowside

High Street

Rattlesden, Bury St Edmunds

IP30 0RA



### **Proposed motion that would have seen speed limits lowered to 20mph across Suffolk**

At Full Council on the 22<sup>nd</sup> October, the LDGI Group proposed a motion that would implement a default 20mph speed limit for roads in residential areas and communities across Suffolk's towns and villages, with 30mph limits to be retained only in exceptional circumstances. The motion was supported by both the LDGI Group and the Labour Group, and though some Conservative councillors privately expressed support, unfortunately they were whipped to vote against it.

As the seconder of the motion I said "20mph is supported by numerous organisations, including ROSPA, the UN and the 20splenty campaign,

"By rejecting this motion, the Conservative administration have lost a massive opportunity to improve the lives of their residents, to make the air cleaner, to get more people walking and cycling, and to reduce deaths and injuries on our roads."

SCC has separately announced a publicity campaign "to encourage walking and cycling" that will consist of posters and radio adverts, along with £235,000 funding for Quiet Lanes Suffolk, which parishes can apply for. My group has called for greater commitment from the administration to support walking, cycling and road safety.

### **Submitted response to 'Planning for the Future Consultation'**

Following the Government's announcement of a consultation on their proposed reforms to the planning system, my group has submitted a response representing the issues of Suffolk's urban and rural areas. The key points of our response were:

- Planning decisions must be kept local, as local communities have unique circumstances that will not be reflected if all decisions are taken at a national level.
- Planning approval should not be automatic or determined by AI decision-making, which could lead to inappropriate development that does not meet the needs of the local community.
- The environment must be safeguarded.
- Quality must not be lost for the sake of speed.
- Affordable housing must be protected.

## County Council AGM

This month saw the Annual General Meeting of the County Council, which I attended. The AGM should have taken place in May but was delayed due to COVID-19. Cllr Graham Newman was elected Chairman of the County Council until the next AGM in May 2021. Cllr Louis Busuttil was elected Vice Chairman.

Cllr Brambley-Crawshaw, Leader of the LDGI Group, gave an executive speech praising the dedication of Suffolk County Council officers and public sector workers who have pulled together to combat the pandemic. She also called for more co-operation between local politicians to combat the issues of the pandemic and climate change.

**MASKS ON CLOSED CONTRACT SCHOOL BUSES** as from 2<sup>nd</sup> November all students should wear masks unless a health reason not to.

**NEW CYCLE PARKS IN STOWMARKET;** government money has funded a new cycle park in Stowmarket and one in Sudbury,

**NEW COVID RULES.** At the time of writing we are not clear how this will affect SCC officers attending sites, issues etc. I'll let you know asap

**PARKING AT THE SHOP/YEWLANDS;** I have contacted Matt Fox at SCC . he cannot meet us during this lockdown but may be able to go out himself

### MID SUFFOLK;

The council will agree the next stage of the Joint local plan on 11<sup>th</sup> November. Then there will be a period of consultation on the legality of the plan.

**APPLICATION AT THE SIX BELLS;** I have asked John Pateman-gee how he is thinking on this and if he is proposing approve I will consider calling it in to committee.

**CAR PARKING IN STOWMARKET;** this will now be digital.

**ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING POINTS;** there will be some on the car parks in Stowmarket.



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# Vodka Christmas Cake Recipe

This year I've had loads of requests for my vodka Christmas cake recipe so once again, here goes.! (Made mine this morning... I think...).

## Ingredients

- 1 cup sugar
- Half pound butter
- 1tsp baking powder
- 1 cup water
- 1tsp salt
- 1cup brown sugar
- lemon juice
- 4 large eggs
- Nuts
- 1....bottle vodka, large
- 2 cups dried fruit
- 4 cups self -raising flour



## Method

1. Sample a cup of vodka to check quality.
2. Take a large bowl, check the vodka again to be sure it is of the highest quality, then repeat.
3. Turn on the electric mixer.
4. Beat one cup of butter in a large fluffy bowl. Add 1 teaspoon of sugar. Beat again
5. At this point, it's best to make sure the vodka is still Ok
6. Try another cup just in case
7. Turn off the mixer thingy. Break 2 eegs and add to the bowl and chuck in the cup of dried fruit.
8. Pick the fruit off the floor, wash it and put it in the bowl a piece at a time trying to count it. Mix on the turner.
9. If the fried druit getas stuck in the beaterers, just pry it loose with a drewscraver  
Sample the vodka to test for tonsistency. Next sift 2 cups of salt, or something. Check the vodka. Now shift the lemon juice and strain your nuts. Add one table
10. Add a spoon of sugar or somefink. Whatever you can find.
11. Greash the oven. Turn the cake tin 360 degrees and try not to fall over
12. Don't forget to beat off the turner. Finally, throw the bowl through the feckin window.
13. Finish of the vodka and wipe the counter with the cat.

# Gingerbread Men

*This makes for quite a strongly flavoured gingerbread. For younger children you may want to reduce the amount of ginger to ½ a teaspoon. The extra spices we add at Christmas time when they just add to that wonderful spicy aroma of Christmas baking!*

## Ingredients:

- 12oz (350g) plain flour
- 6oz (175g) light soft brown sugar
- 4oz (100g) unsalted butter
- 1 egg beaten
- 1 teaspoon of bicarbonate of soda (baking soda)
- 1 teaspoon of ground ginger
- ½ teaspoon of ground cinnamon (optional)
- ½ teaspoon of mixed spice (optional)
- 4 tablespoons of golden syrup



## Method:

Sieve the flour, spices and bicarbonate of soda into a large mixing bowl. Chop the butter into pieces and rub in to the flour. Mix in the sugar.

Add the egg and syrup and mix into a dough. Wrap the dough in clingfilm and pop into the fridge for an hour. Use to make gingerbread men.

## For 8-10 men you will need:

- 1 quantity of our gingerbread recipe
- A man shaped cutter
- Writing icing
- Small sweets (candy), chocolate chips, glace cherries, whatever you have in your cupboard

## Method:

1. Roll out your gingerbread on a floured surface until it is about 1/4 inch (5mm) thick.
2. Cut out your biscuits and pop them onto a greased baking tray. If you intend to hang them on your Christmas tree make a hole at the top. A plastic drinking straw is perfect for making the hole.
3. Bake in an oven preheated to 180°C or Gas Mark 5 for 10-15 minutes, until they have turned golden brown. They should still feel slightly soft. Cool on the tray for 10 minutes before removing to a cooling rack.
4. When completely cool, decorate the biscuits with icing and the other bits (the icing will work as glue).
5. Thread through some cord or ribbon and knot if you want to hang your gingerbread men on the tree!

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# Just for Kids

## Puffy Paint Snowman

There is something so satisfying about crafting with shaving foam - and the kids love it!

This puffy paint snowman makes a perfect winter activity, and the 3d finished result is lovely on display.



### You will need:

Card  
PVA glue  
Shaving foam  
Small pieces of black and orange card

### Instructions:

- Mix together roughly equal quantities of glue and shaving foam.
- Use a lolly stick, a spoon, or even your fingers to spread the mixture onto your card in a snowman shape.
- Cut out a carrot nose and pebbles from scrap card and carefully place them on your snowman.
- Leave to dry.

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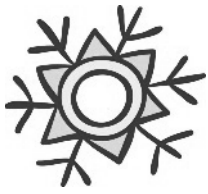
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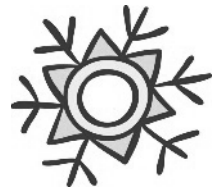
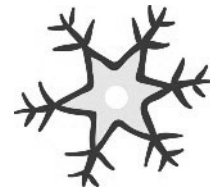


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# Babouscka

## Russian Legend



It was the night the dear Christ Child came to Bethlehem. In a country far away from Him, an old, old woman named Babouscka sat in her snug little house by her warm fire. The wind was drifting the snow outside and howling down the chimney, but it only made Babouscka's fire burn more brightly.

"How glad I am that I may stay indoors!" said Babouscka, holding her hands out to the bright blaze. But suddenly she heard a loud rap at her door. She opened it and her candle shone on three old men standing outside in the snow. Their beards were as white as the snow, and so long that they reached the ground. Their eyes shone kindly in the light of Babouscka's candle, and their arms were full of precious things—boxes of jewels, and sweet-smelling oils, and ointments.

"We have travelled far, Babouscka," said they, "and we stop to tell you of the Baby Prince born this night in Bethlehem. He comes to rule the world and teach all men to be loving and true. We carry Him gifts. Come with us, Babouscka!"

But Babouscka looked at the driving snow, and then inside at her cosy room and the crackling fire. "It is too late for me to go with you, good sirs," she said, "the weather is too cold." She went inside again and shut the door, and the old men journeyed on to Bethlehem without her. But as Babouscka sat by her fire, rocking, she began to think about the little Christ Child, for she loved all babies.

"Tomorrow I will go to find Him," she said; "tomorrow, when it is light, and I will carry Him some toys."

So when it was morning Babouscka put on her long cloak, and took her staff, and filled a basket with the pretty things a baby would like—gold balls, and wooden toys, and strings of silver cobwebs—and she set out to find the Christ Child.

But, oh! Babouscka had forgotten to ask the three old men the road to Bethlehem, and they had travelled so far through the night that she could not overtake them. Up and down the roads she hurried, through woods and fields and towns, saying to whomsoever she met: "I go to find the Christ Child. Where does he lie? I bring some pretty toys for His sake."

But no one could tell her the way to go, and they all said: "Farther on, Babouscka, farther on." So she travelled on, and on, and on for years and years—but she never found the little Christ Child.

# THE 59 CLUB

The 59 CLUB are looking for more people to take part.  
We have plenty of numbers available

For those of you that don't know what the 59 Club is, it's based on the winning National Lottery Bonus Ball. Simple pick a number that's currently available from numbers 1-59, and if your chosen number is drawn as part of the bonus ball in the National Lottery Lotto, then your number wins.

We have 2 games per week. One on a Wednesday & one on Saturday.

The Wednesday game is charged at 50p per number and if your number comes up you win £15. The Saturday game is charged at £1 per number and for that game if your number is drawn you win £30.

The 59 Club is run on behalf of the Village Hall Management Committee, and raises funds for the Village Hall. So every little bit really does help!

If you would like to take part, or need more information, please get in contact with me: [steven1515@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:steven1515@yahoo.co.uk) or 01449737040.

Thank you, Steven



59 Club

Bonus Ball Game

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<b>379</b>	<b>OUTWARD</b>	Felsham Six Bells			10:38			
		Gedding Bus Stop			10:41			
		Bury Bus Station			11:07			
	<b>RETURN</b>	Bury Bus Station, Stand 5			12:55			
		Gedding Bus Stop			13:19			
		Felsham Six Bells			13:22			

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<b>MID SUFFOLK &amp; COUNTY COUNCILLOR</b>	PENNY OTTON penny.otton@suffolk.gov.uk penny.otton@midsuffolk.gov.uk	01449 736482
<b>MID SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL</b>	NEEDHAM MARKET	0845 606 6170
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