

Nacton Parish Council

Summer newsletter



Chairman's Update

Perhaps to my surprise, I find myself still chair of the parish council, for what will be my twelfth year. At the AGM I agreed to remain as chair at least until the end of the year. Following on from this it was agreed that the parish council would set up a series of working groups each to look after one area of responsibility which the council has. This has now been put into action. One of these is to create a new 10 year plan, the previous having been completed in full. In due course the council will seek parishioners input. In the meantime should individuals have ideas they should forward them either to the clerk or the chair.

During this past 12 months there has been one change in the makeup of the council, with Iain Hatfield resigned due to ill health.

The parish council is very lucky in having two excellent employees in Clare Lucas, our clerk and Brian Mansfield our RFO. They are both very efficient, knowledgeable and positive in all they do. Our excellent auditors report shows how well they have managed the parish council over the last year.

We are also lucky to have a very active Tree Warden. He has helped clear parts of Paupers' Wood and also replaced the damaged hedge with new fencing around parts of Victoria Field. Much of the new hedge is growing well and will now be maintained at about a metre.

An information board has been placed inside Victoria Field informing about both the field and Paupers' Wood, The project to improve Victoria Field and to give it more of a purpose, is now complete.

Refurbishment of the parish council's property has continued, with the repairing of the bus shelter being the latest project. The five year Action Plan created in 2020 has now been finished with all projects completed. The council has discussed a new plan which is now being finalised. Any suggestions from parishioners can be made to the clerk.

Our two district councillors and our county councillor have been supportive of us. They have attended many of our meetings and provided funds for some of our projects. Again, this is much appreciated.

On November 11th many parishioners attended the ceremony at our war memorial. Both schools in the village sent representatives and laid poppy wreaths during the ceremony.

There have been some acts of vandalism during the year, which is very sad. Tree protections and the notice around the jubilee tree were destroyed and, more importantly, the pads in the defibrillator were removed on two occasions making the life saver useless. In addition two of the grit bins were damaged and had to be replaced.

A litter pick took place with many villagers attending and collecting an amazing amount of rubbish. The parish council has now bought its own equipment as the input from ESDC continues to diminish.

I am very grateful to all the parish councillors who give of their time, freely. Whilst the public meetings are what everyone can see, much

else goes on outside these meetings, largely unseen.

The parish council is in a sound position. Its finances are excellent and its procedures all in order. We have plans for the future, which we hope to begin to put into action, starting this year.

Cllr. Brian Hunt

Devolution

Suffolk County Council launched a new survey giving residents the opportunity to shape the future of councils and public services in Suffolk. It's part of the Government's plan to reshape and streamline councils in Suffolk to save money, reduce confusion and improve public services for residents.

The survey only takes about 10 minutes to complete, and can be done online at <https://onesuffolkcouncil.co.uk/residents-survey>, by emailing devolution@suffolk.gov.uk or by calling 0345 603 1842 where a member of Suffolk County Council's customer services team can help residents to complete the survey. People can also visit any of Suffolk's 45 libraries to complete the survey online.

The survey asks questions about local democracy – such as how you raise issues that need addressing, local decision making – such as how you might want to get involved and about the specifics of council reorganisation itself.

The survey is open until 4 August 2025.

Suffolk Community Award

Nominations now open!

The search for Suffolk's most inspirational individuals, groups, councils and communities, has officially launched today. The Suffolk Community Awards 2025

will recognise and celebrate all those who have improved the quality of life for communities across Suffolk.

[READ MORE HERE](#)

Priory Court



The dry spring has seen the grounds men hard at work keeping the grounds of Priory Court and Priory Park looking magnificent once more and all ready for the summer.

Wildlife in the park is always a delight to see. This year has seen the return of a pair of Egyptian Geese, they produced four goslings, but it seems only one survived who they have looked after and is now nearly as big as mum and dad!



Percy the Peafowl continues to keep us amused and has now found his early morning voice (not so amusing for some!) We wonder if a female is hearing his calls. This year has seen more Graylag Geese than previous years and they have delighted us with many goslings, although the golfers are not quite so happy about them.



Priory Court celebrated VE day with a traditional street party accompanied by patriotic decorations, music from the time, dancing, and of course good food and drink. We were so privileged to have the flyover

pass right over us-the noise was deafening!

The Smugglers of Alnesbourne were delighted to take part in the Nacton Heritage Weekend. They sang sea shanties and songs of the sea to a packed church who joined in and had some fun.



The social team is now well underway with a range of social events, a Buddy Holly tribute act raised over £1,000 for Dementia UK.

Future speakers at summer monthly coffee mornings are:

- June-Suffolk Wildlife Rescue
- July-National Coastwatch Felixstowe
- August-Fareshare East Anglia.

Finally, it is with sadness that the Court has seen some of its residents pass on, but new residents have arrived and just as their predecessors did, the new residents are enjoying the unique lifestyle of living at Priory Court.

Nacton Community Council



The Community Council has been carrying out some improvements to the facilities on the sports field; a water heater has been installed in the ladies' lavatory, the pavilion has been redecorated, the patio has been re-grouted and new posts have been installed delineating the children's play area.

A beacon burned brightly on the sports field to celebrate the eightieth anniversary of Victory in Europe day. Parishes throughout the country were encouraged to light beacons and hold gatherings - and Nacton joined in. There was an excellent turnout of residents who enjoyed hot dogs and hot chocolate served by the Community Council. The beacon was lit by resident Adrian Lush who is a ninety-five-year-old army veteran.

Jim, a lone piper, played a medley of tunes which was a fitting complement to the evening. The beacon was purchased with grants from our East Suffolk Councillor Lee Reeves and the Parish Council.



Nacton Cricket Club has some wonderful news to share with you. James Foster, Chairman of the club writes, "Around a month ago we were contacted by a resident in our village, Graham, who has a 13 year old foster son who came to the UK as a refugee from Afghanistan. His journey was far from easy travelling for almost a year, to get to the UK, as a parent I cannot imagine having to send my son by himself for the chance of a better life.

Wahab arrived for his first net and it was clear to see that he has talent and a passion for the game that is infectious. Wahab lives and breathes Cricket. With this in mind we were very keen as a club to help him as much as we could to embrace this passion and give him an environment that he would feel safe and give him the opportunity to display his talent and feel part of something.

Our amazing members stepped up to the plate, donating everything they could, raising enough to be able to guarantee his membership to the club and to supply him with all his playing whites, a cap and training clothing. We also reached out to our friends at Gray-Nicholls Cricket to see if they would be able to help in any way at all. We were blown away by their response. They donated (free of charge!) Brand new, Bat, Pads, Gloves, Thigh Guard, Helmet, Duffle Bag and Abdo guard! It was an amazing gesture, one indicative of the Cricket community.

Sport has the power to change lives, give opportunities and bring people together. We for one are so proud and grateful to our members who have shown what it means to be part of a club and a community. Massive thanks to our friends at Gray-Nicholls who have made this young man's day. Wahab has since been playing week in, week out for Nacton, taking 3 wickets on his debut and has already notched up a haul of 6, we have no doubt he will take many more."

Events



A poster for the Nacton Big Picnic, framed by a decorative border of colorful flowers. The text is centered and reads:

NACTON VILLAGE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

As part of the summer event on Saturday 12th July at 4.00pm

The Big Picnic

Nacton Village Community Council invites you to design, create and make a miniature garden to be part of the biggest collection of miniature gardens ever displayed in Nacton?

Any size container from tea cup to a wheelbarrow

There will be a chance for miniature gardeners (under 12s) to make miniature gardens on site.

Katie's Garden, Newbourne has a wonderful array of miniature plants and alpines.
It is hoped there will also be a pop up plant stall.

Bring your miniature garden either on the morning of July 12th between 10am. & 12pm. or
Friday evening between 6.30pm and 7. 30pm (to be stored in the pavilion overnight)

COFFEE MORNING



Coffee Mornings at The Village Hall (10am - 12 midday)

- 5th July
- 2nd August

Freshly brewed coffee and tea, cakes and a chance to select or swap a book or jigsaw.

If you haven't been before then do come along and sample our delicious bacon rolls, sausage baps - with an egg if you like.

Parish Council Meetings:

30th July

24th September

2nd December

Members of the public are most welcome. Meetings are held in the village hall and start at 7 pm.

'Craft and chat' takes place in the sports field pavilion on Wednesday mornings every fortnight starting at 10.00am.

26th June

10th July

24th July

7th August

Bring along anything you would like to craft and have a lovely chat. Look out for more details coming soon.

Meet Councillor Waterman



Cllr. Andrew Waterman is the newest councillor to join Nacton Parish Council and was co-opted at the AGM. Here's what Andrew has to say.

"I have lived in Nacton for 20 years and have a keen interest in helping to deliver local services, preserving the local environment, and increasing community involvement.

I am an active member of St Martin's Church.

I regularly attend and enjoy the monthly coffee mornings in our village hall. I love sailing and volunteer as a skipper at The East Anglian Sailing Trust, working with and teaching disabled and visually impaired sailors. Prior to retirement, I was a primary school teacher and headteacher in London, Essex and Suffolk. I look forward to working with the parish council to enhance the quality of life for everyone living in our unique, Suffolk village.

Are you on Facebook? Nacton Parish Council is.



If you are on Facebook, why not follow Nacton Parish Council to find out about local news and events?

If you have anything that you would like to be added to the Facebook Page, Website or the noticeboards please contact the clerk

nactonpc@gmail.com

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