

Aldringham cum Thorpe with Sizewell

Newsletter

*Coastal Erosion **EMERGENCY** – Village Meeting Tuesday August 19th
Upstairs at Thorpeness Country Club 4.30pm. PLEASE COME!!!*



Website: www.aldringham.onesuffolk.net

August 2025

Save Our Shoreline

North End Homes May Go “Within Months”

Residents on the beach side of North End Avenue, Thorpeness, have been warned they may lose their properties **within months** without serious works to the coastline.

East Suffolk Council has warned there is no money for such works, and indicated that it may not approve plans submitted by local residents for an expansion to the rock revetment financed by one household in 2021.

Northerly winds have caused considerable erosion along the sea frontage of North End Avenue to beyond the Headlands (an iconic group of flats and maisonettes) further south, and the beach is now a much thinner stretch of shingle with areas of sand exposed at low tide. At the north end of the village, the clifftop where the Red House once stood (it was demolished in 2022), has been eroded significantly, and in front of three properties, The Warren, The Chantry and Cheneys, the gabion defences have been undercut by the sea and are slumping. Sea side of The Warren in particular, the gabion defences have completely failed and the house has lost some 12m of its garden. Without urgent intervention the village is likely to lose these properties to the sea in the very near future.

A team from East Suffolk Council have now spoken with most of the owners of seafront properties from Tinkers End to no 22 North End Avenue, and also with some property owners on the other side, to update them on the situation and to provide information about when owners will need to demolish their properties if the erosion continues and no further defences are put in place.

In July Local MP Jenny Riddell-Carpenter convened a meeting in Thorpeness with the Parish Council, East Suffolk Council Coastal Management team and the most affected residents, many of whom are members of Thorpeness Coastal Futures Group. The Council are now helping the community understand what defence maintenance options may be possible - and while any work that is done will be at the expense of the residents, it will at least give those most affected more time to fight for more permanent defences.

Resident Sophie Marple, whose family rebuilt their holiday home Seadune on the Avenue 10 years ago said: “ Until the meeting with Jenny Riddell-Carpenter, the situation was feeling quite hopeless. East Suffolk Council has been unable to offer much support, particularly financial. Earlier this year, the owners of the most affected properties came together and contracted a coastal consultant to help us understand what our options are. In March, a planning application was put in to extend the rock revetment, currently outside no 22, to cover an area 50m further north and south. As it stands this application will probably not be approved. The erosion the beach and cliff sustained in early 2025 means that any new defences would need to extend further south along the whole frontage to The Headlands”.

Lucy Ansbro, who in 2021 installed a rock revetment defence outside her home Number 22, one of the most endangered properties, has been pivotal in organising the fight to save North End Avenue.

She said: “ The planning process is complicated particularly as there are numerous statutory bodies involved all requiring different information; getting permission for any rock scheme is likely to take over a year at significant expense to the community. However, defending the north end is vital to us all in Thorpeness as without defence, we will start losing houses to the sea, which will affect the property prices of everyone in the village as the erosion extends southwards.”



(Photos courtesy M and C Jones March 2025)



Two Indomitable Women Hope the Tide Will Turn

The last two remaining full-time residents on North End Avenue's cliffside are hoping coastal works will save them from having to demolish their much-loved homes. Shelley Cowlin, 90 next year, moved into Cheney's 50 years ago with her late husband Mick, having previously owned a holiday house in the Whinlands. Four doors down from the Red House, sadly demolished in 2022, Cheney's was built in 1927, it is believed by highly-renowned local builders Reades. But it was one particular room with spectacular sea views in a later extension that sold the house to them. This is where Shelley spends a lot of her time, and she hopes, will spend a lot more. But a few months ago "the sea did a whoopsy," as Shelley describes it, and now she has been told if the cliff erodes much further, the situation will be getting dangerous for her property. She now worries what the future holds. She hopes her home will see her out, but with relatives who have reached their centuries, she fears it might not.



Caption: Frances and Jean at the cliff edge in her garden

Should the cliff-edge reduce to five metres from the house, she will be warned that the house is becoming unsafe, she should prepare to remove her belongings and to receive a notice to demolish her house. A metre closer, so within four metres of the house, she will be told to remove her possessions and the house will be demolished.

Both Jean and Shelley along with the other residents on the sea-side of North End Avenue have contributed to various coastal protection schemes from the rock filled gabions to the ill-fated geo bags. They will possibly receive financial help to demolish their homes, but no other financial assistance. Jean was visited by a Housing Needs officer and told that if she had nowhere else to go, she would be housed in hotels either in Lowestoft or Norwich – but warned that the Norwich hotel is "pretty grotty".

A plan is being worked on with the assistance of council that could see new rock-filled gabions linking the rock revetment at Number 22 to the remaining old gabions to the south, but these would have to be privately funded. However, with no easy access to the beach closer behind the café opposite the Meare, and no access at all at high tide so limiting the time the structures can be built, this will be an extremely difficult and costly project, she says. "But we fight on," says Jean, and Frances agrees: "I will scrape together every penny I have to save my home, because I love it," she says.

THORPENESS VILLAGE MEETING

TUESDAY AUGUST 19 4.30PM
UPSTAIRS IN THORPENESS COUNTRY CLUB

Open to everyone who lives, stays in or loves Thorpeness.

Erosion is putting the Village at serious risk

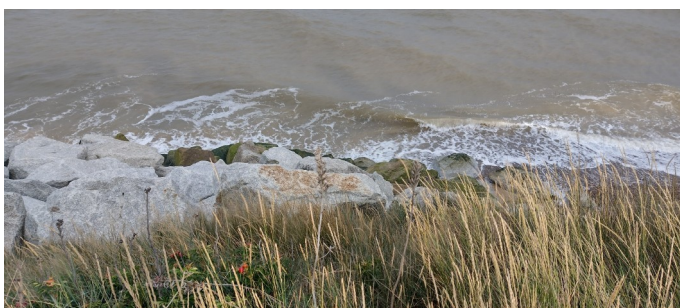
Join us to understand what is happening and how you are affected.

PLEASE COME!



Caption: Shelley Cowlin in her favourite room

Two doors away, next but one to the Red House site, Jean Flick (soon to be 88) moved into her first home with her new husband Tony 25 years ago. The Warren, dating from 1928, is a magnificent Reades-built house where an entrance lobby opens into a galleried hall worthy of a stately home – the massive front window was once stained glass. Behind, the reception rooms and bedrooms above have superb open views of the sea. But these days, Jean opens the curtains each morning with trepidation – how much more of her garden will be gone? Her low wall and many of her favourite plants are now on the beach, after a night when she heard ominous rumblings – a terrifying experience. One stalwart plant remains in view, and she encourages it to hold on! Jean, supported by her daughter Frances Paul, who lives on the opposite side of the Avenue, received a visit from East Suffolk council officers warning her what the future might hold



Caption: Now the wall is gone there is no barrier to the rocks and sea below the Warren

Parish Council Update August 2025

A Heritage We MUST Protect

I hope you have all enjoyed the lovely weather we have had during the last few months, but it is such a shame that now the school holidays are here it's not so good. However, we must be so thankful that we live in such a beautiful Parish with wonderful countryside, and in the first ever purpose-built holiday village in the country. This is the heritage that we MUST protect, both from the encroaching sea and the creeping industrialisation threatened by the many energy projects surrounding us (more of both later in this newsletter).

The village was originally Thorpe and had its name changed in the early 1900s by Glencairn Stuart Ogilvie (known as Stuart) who had inherited the very large Sizewell Estate. There were several villages already named Thorpe so Stuart decided to change the name to Thorpeness so it could be identified easily, and our coastline had a 'ness'.

Thorpeness has been through many changes, especially since the 1970s when most of the village properties and land had to be sold to pay enormous death duties. The village always had a wonderful working community and most of the people were at one time or another employed on The Meare, the Golf Club, the Country Club or on the upkeep of the village and surrounding large houses and farmland. Some were employed by the railway which unfortunately no longer exists.

The local community is very important but over the last few years has declined due to most of the houses in the village being bought as second homes or holiday lets. The remaining full time residents have a really good community spirit and ensure that they organise and participate in traditional local events including coffee mornings, summer fetes, Christmas fayres and various activities at the local Ogilvie Pavilion etc. We also have a wonderful Thorpeness Golf Club used by locals and visitors alike. The Country Club holds events during the summer and weddings often take place there. However, the jewel in the crown is our wonderful Thorpeness Meare which was hand dug by many local residents and opened in 1913. A unique regatta is held each year over two days (August 21st and 22nd this year), ending with a wonderful firework display. Thank you to the Ogilvie family for continuing with this legacy. Also we must all thank Craig Block for successfully running our beautiful Meare over the years and keeping all the boats in good repair.

To preserve and enhance all these wonderful benefits is a task not only for the Parish Council but for everyone who lives, stays or works here. PLEASE may we have your whole-hearted support.

Coastal Matters

Erosion along the section of beach in front of North End Avenue unfortunately will mean that properties along the front may have to be demolished during the next few months if a plan is not agreed with East Suffolk Council Planning and Coastal Department soon. Work needs to be carried out urgently to protect this area - if not we could see much of North End Avenue disappear.

The PC has been in discussion with East Suffolk Council and Thorpeness Coastal Futures Group regarding the urgency of these works. Also, meetings have been held with representatives from East Suffolk Council and residents of North End Avenue.

The PC has also been involved with a recent meeting with Jenny Riddell-Carpenter, MP for this area. Jenny attended a meeting in Thorpeness and met with residents, East Suffolk Council Members of Staff, our District Councillors and Representatives of Thorpeness Coastal Futures Group to discuss the Priority of the eroding Coast. Jenny will write a report giving her recommendations, to both ourselves and the East Suffolk Council.

PLEASE make sure that as many residents/owners of properties, business owners and visitors as possible complete the questionnaire, a link to which follows. This is very important for the village and coast and the legacy for the future.

Your Village, Your Future – Survey on coastal erosion and coastal flooding in Thorpeness.

“Our coast in East Suffolk has always been active, but recently there has been increased erosion in Thorpeness and we need to think about how best to prepare the village for a future shaped by rapid coastal change and sea level rise. Members of the Thorpeness Coastal Futures Group have been working with local residents, the local Parish Council and members of the local Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group to develop a survey of residents, business owners and visitors as part of the Resilient Coasts project, led by East Suffolk Council.

The project wants to know:

- what you think about living in, working in, or visiting Thorpeness
- what issues are important to you
- what you know and think about how coastal erosion or coastal flooding affects Thorpeness, now and in the future

Please complete the survey and encourage friends and family members to complete it too. The deadline for responses is Sunday 14th September and it takes 15-20 minutes to complete. You can scan the QR code :-



or use this link to complete the survey:
www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/Thorpeness_Survey
For more information on the project, please email: resilientcoasts@eastsoffolk.gov.uk

Flower Tubs

The flower tubs in front of the Dolphin, along Old Homes Road and in front of the Pavilion have all been planted with colourful geraniums and have given a wonderful show during the last months. Tubs have also been planted in Aldringham opposite the Parrot and on the small area on the way to Mill Hill. I wish to thank everyone who helps to keep Aldringham and Thorpeness

looking cheerful and I am sure this is appreciated, especially opposite the Parrot and the Dolphin. If anyone wishes to help with these tasks please let the Parish Clerk know.

The grass is being cut regularly along Old Homes Road and at the triangle in Aldringham. The Parish Council finances this as it helps motorists see clearly at certain junctions. We do try to encourage wild areas but still need to ensure good vision, especially as there are more vehicles and builders' lorries using our roads. One day, hopefully, all the various building works will be completed and the villages maybe a bit quieter. We understand that owners wish to improve properties, but when they are completely demolished and rebuilt this causes a lot of disturbance to local residents. Some have been going on for several months and, in some cases, more than a year.

SIDS

The speed indicator devices are helping to reduce speeding through the villages and it is nice to get a 'thank you' when you are doing the correct speed. Thank you to Parish Councillor Tony Wheeler for keeping a record of the speeding. However, some motorists continue to exceed the speed limits.

So, a plea to all drivers :- It is dangerous to speed, especially as our Parish has many elderly residents who cannot cross roads quickly, together with holiday-makers in relaxed frame of mind including numerous bikers (many of them children) and walkers. **REDUCE YOUR SPEED!**

Area in Old Homes Road

Unfortunately the wooded area along Old Homes Road has been neglected and the fencing has become damaged and broken. This area should not be entered as there maybe some hazards on this section of woodland. The owner has been contacted and made aware of the damaged fencing so hopefully this will soon be replaced and the area tidied up.

Ogilvie Pavilion

The Parish Council holds all their meetings at the Ogilvie Pavilion and recently held an Extraordinary Meeting to discuss how we can help provide some funding for the development of the new building in the future. A proposal was agreed for £25,000 to be provided from the Parish Council's CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) account to help with the funding. Hopefully, the new build will commence either later this year or early next year. Further news regarding the Pavilion will be supplied by Eric Atkinson, Chair of The Trustees.

The entrance area is looking very smart at the moment, and hopefully, the car park and new picnic area will be used both by residents and visitors during the year. The 5 a Side football pitch which has been newly created is now being used by several clubs, and is a great success. The croquet green is also used most days. On Mondays people, some with health and mobility problems, attend a special session which involves gentle exercise, plus learning to play croquet. Refreshments are provided afterwards. This is a wonderful opportunity for people to meet, chat and also exercise.

Aldringham Village Shelter

This is now being constructed by a local craftsperson in his workshop and when completed will be transported to the site on Mill Hill. The foundation slabs have been laid, this is one of the projects being carried out by the Parish Council overseen by Tony Wheeler and Bill Seale. It will be so nice to see this completed and in use.

Information Boards for Aldringham

Boards will be erected in the village shortly.

Neighbourhood Plan

This is now with East Suffolk Council for approval and will then be sent to residents in the Parish to give it final approval through a referendum.

Parish Councillors

As usual, the councillors have been very busy sorting out various problems in the Parish, ranging from dog bins, bus shelters, to uncut verges etc. Some of them are also involved working with other local charitable groups and attend several meetings in the course of the year. These include the Sizewell C Forum Meetings and Sizewell Stakeholder Group. We are in constant contact with Scottish Power and the other power companies. I would like to say thank you to all of the Parish Councillors (there are only five of us at the moment). If anyone is interested and feels they can help and offer something to the community please contact the Parish Clerk Shirley Tilbrook on 01728 830001. Thank you.

Farewell to Chris at The Parrot

The Parish Council would like to say thank you to **Chris at The Aldringham Parrot** who has worked tirelessly for many years running the pub. Chris has really been a wonderful landlord supporting local groups; catering for local breakfast events and meetings for the Pilgrims group, holding coffee mornings each month and donating proceeds to Thorpeness & Aldringham Heritage Group and The Saxmundham food bank. He also runs bingo and quiz nights – not forgetting the Parrot Puzzler - and making wonderful gingerbread houses for events at Christmas time. We all know Chris loves Christmas! During the many months of Covid, Chris created the Outside Inn for the Parrot, which has been a bonus for special events. He is a great supporter of foodbanks and always has a box for donations of food etc just inside the pub. Chris will be leaving the Parrot shortly and will be greatly missed, and we wish him all the best for the future. **THANK YOU**

Maureen Jones

Chair

Energy Projects

Sizewell C

Since our last report, without a doubt, the Big News is the UK Government finally giving the go-ahead for the construction of Sizewell C- the first majority British-Owned Nuclear Power Plant in over 30 years. I don't

know what they would have done had they refused to fund it, but it was hardly a surprise with all the work that is going on.

The really stand-out piece of good news and certainly one that whatever your views on the project, is the most welcome announcement that Sizewell C will build a new post-16 College in Leiston. This will be a Further Education college in a partnership with Suffolk New College. At last Leiston will be getting post -16 education and training. Instead of the long early morning long bus ride to Ipswich for the students, it will be all on their doorstep- a real boost for Leiston, Sizewell C's home town and the surrounding area.

Recent news reports (perhaps likely to attract more mixed reactions) also say that 200 ex-offenders will be given rehabilitation opportunities to work on the site. Sizewell C is already working with local prisons in Suffolk to design training courses in welding, construction, engineering and hospitality that are aimed at equipping inmates with the skills needed. Some prisoners will work on the plant during day release – others will be employed at the end of their sentences.

Most of the other work we are all too familiar with, is the plethora of pre-contract projects mostly the temporary roads and park'n'ride facilities. It is hard to know whose roadworks they are- SZC or Scottish Power who are also starting their initial works. Traffic Management firms in the area must be making a fortune!

For the rest of this report I am extremely grateful to our Energy Guru, Mr Bill Halford, of this Parish, who has done a much better job in collating the various Projects that are limbering up to commence the much-heralded renewable schemes that we have been acquainted with for years - it seems!

Scottish Power Renewables (SPR) EA2 and EA1N

SPR will shortly be East Suffolk Council detailed 'DCO discharge' specifications for further pre-construction works along the cable route that runs through our parish. They have released over recent months the following information: -

Onshore works- Projects stages information for pre-construction works for both

Substations, onshore cable for EA2 and onshore cable duct and cable installation for EA1N

Enabling Works- Temporary haul road along Snape Road- west of Knodishall where the Traffic Management now is and don't we know it?

Temporary alternate route for part of the National Trail Sandlings/bridleway

Three new permanent footpaths to mitigate the future closure of existing public rights of way.

Site investigations- ongoing works

Cable Enabling Works- Clearance of vegetation and installation of temporary fencing along full cable route between Knodishall and Thorpeness

Construction of two haul road accesses on Sizewell Gap Road

Horizontal Directional Drilling for a distance of approximately 500metres underneath the Aldringham Hundred River and subsequently installation of cables -

This operation has its separate planning submission with its accompanying Environmental Assessment. It is one

part of the project that our parish really wants to get approved. Instead of an access point like the roadworks at Knodishall, SPR's scheme to get under the Hundred River on Aldeburgh Road at Aldringham is to drill under it coming up in the fields beyond Fitches Lane, thus saving the lovely wood next to Aldringham Court Nursing Home and the very sensitive micro-climate at the eastern part of the river. Fingers crossed on that and hats off to SPR who have done a lot of work to avoid the disruption and damage previously planned.

Assuming all these are passed and these preliminary works completed, full scale of the first project EA2 is expected to commence in mid 2026.

National Grid Electricity Transmission NGET- Sea Link

Valid Relevant Representations were received by the Planning Inspectorate between May and June, which have now been published. These are open to all parties who did not submit during the previous period, with a deadline before midnight of August

National Grid Ventures (NGV) Lionlink

Although there is no current proposal to run Lionlink cables, nor construct a massive Converter Station in our parish, however it is one of another five similar projects that will be running concurrent in this area, Saxmundham and Friston in particular. There has been a noticeable increase in road traffic over the last year and yet we have hardly scratched the surface.

Lionlink have already started their process of drop-ins, webinars, landfill selections, archaeological works etc which should carry on until submission of the Development Consent Order (DCO), probably during 2026.

HELIOS 250 MW Solar Farm

In December 2023 National Grid ESO offered a Grid Connection at the proposed Friston 400kV substation for a large solar farm and battery site. No location has yet been announced, however, in order to connect at Friston, this farm and all its cabling to take up a large acreage in this part of East Suffolk and further to the industrialisation of our local area. If you want further more detailed information on all these projects please free to contact Bill Halford at act.energy@gmail.com

Parish Speed Survey

20's Plenty for Aldringham-cum-Thorpe - The Saga Continues

So where were we? Tony Wheeler and I were about to meet the our local Police team and Highways at the Parrot. We were delighted to be joined by County Councillor T-J Haworth-Culf, who has been greatly supportive throughout the whole process.

The meeting was extremely friendly and positive with all parties looking for solutions, but unfortunately restricted by accepted wisdom.

1. 20mph throughout Thorpeness village

All parties could see the obvious logic in this, as by its very nature Thorpeness does not lend itself to fast traffic, especially during the holiday season. However, it seems that if a 20mph zone was established, it might not cover the entire village. It has to be proved and it was agreed by Highways to engage a Traffic Engineer to conduct a survey to establish the extent of such a zone. At time of writing we are yet to see this survey, but a traffic survey has been carried out.

2. Reduction of 60mph limit to Thorpe Road (B1353) to 40mph

For this particular issue, both Police and Highways pointed out that there was not enough data on the speeds recorded on this stretch of the road. There would need to be two surveys between Aldringham and Thorpeness, which have now been carried out.

Unfortunately one of the surveys had been vandalised, with the wires that cross the road being cut with only five days data recorded and cannot be considered as sufficient for any alteration of any speed limit. This will now have to be redone, with dates in September being the earliest.

3. Moving 30mph sign to Aldringham Village limit on Thorpe Road

The current location of the sign is well into the village and leaves the Tea Room, the various businesses and the row of cottages exposed to the national speed limit of 60mph without even a pavement to protect them.

Highways pointed out that moving a speed limit sign wasn't simply moving a pole. There were considerable costs in logging and mapping this that come to a little under £10K.

4. Reduction of 40mph to 30mph from the Village sign from Aldeburgh to the present 30mph sign near the Vicarage

Again more data was required and a survey has been carried out. It appears that due to a number of houses on both sides of the road, Suffolk County Speed limit policy a 30mph limit on Rural roads might apply in this instance.

5. Reduce the current 30mph zone in Aldringham Village to 20mph

Despite a history of speeding as recorded by the Parish Council's SIDs (Speed Indicator Devices), Suffolk Highways would never approve of such a move. They also pointed out that in the survey, although there was a majority for this, it was very slender. The Police Team suggested that with some additional white lining with a 'narrowing' pattern, it creates an illusion that the road is getting thinner and tricks them to slow down! This would accompany a couple of roundals (large 30s painted on the road) and perhaps the dummy white gates as there is in Thorpeness.

6. Golfers Crossing on Thorpe Road

Although there was a respectable majority for a 20mph where the golfers cross, Highways would never allow such a drop in limits within the National Speed Limit (60mph). It was pointed out that there are already 'people crossing' 130yds' warning at both ends of the crossing and 'SLOW' painted on the road service. Perhaps if the 40mph limit was in place the traffic would be slower. The surveys have been completed and results were released at the end of July, apart from the vandalized one on Thorpe Road and a meeting of all the parties is being arranged, hopefully in August.

It is noted that Mid Suffolk DC on June 26th voted 25 to 2 in favour of 20mph speed limits in communities across

the district, and have resolved to urge Suffolk County Council to simplify the process for revising and implementing speed limits. The vote was taken on 10th July was unfortunately voted down at the SCC meeting by 32-22, with virtually all the Conservative Councillors voting against.

Bill Seale

Parish Council Vice Chairman

Speed Indicator Devices - Statistics

The Parish Council has four speed indicators in operation providing permanent monitoring of vehicles passing through Aldringham and Thorpeness. Data from the devices is available to view in the News section of the parish council website, <https://aldringham.onesuffolk.net>. Summary data for the 6 months to 31st July 2025 is set out below.

Location	Incoming	Outgoing
Aldringham - Aldringham Park		
Total Vehicles	424,091	410,658
Average Speed/mph	32	33
Max speed/mph	81	109
Vehicles in excess 50 mph	492	502
Aldringham - Vicarage		
Total Vehicles	240,023	325,179
Average Speed/mph	31	35
Max speed/mph	72	85
Vehicles in excess 50 mph	181	694
Thorpeness - Pavilion		
Total Vehicles	145,927	191,378
Average Speed/mph	33	34
Max speed/mph	69	89
Vehicles in excess 50 mph	468	865
Thorpeness - The Haven		
Total Vehicles	117,956	135,507
Average Speed/mph	30	35
Max speed/mph	76	90
Vehicles in excess 50 mph	274	813

Aldringham Village Shelter



(Photo courtesy of Tony Wheeler)

Work has started on site in Mill Hill with the construction of the footings for the shelter now in place. Suffolk Timber Framed Buildings Ltd have completed the structure for the oak frame in their workshop and are due to be on site to erect the frame during the first week of August. When complete, the roof will be topped off with a weather vane designed in the form of a windmill reflecting

in the style of the mill which originally stood in Mill Lane before being transferred to Thorpeness in 1923.

Planning

Since the Easter Newsletter, the Parish Council has received 15 planning consultations, three in Aldringham and 12 in Thorpeness. The applications comprise: -

Erection of New Dwelling	1
Erection of Replacement Dwelling	1
Building alteration and/or extension	6
Change of use	2
Tree felling/surgery	2
Cliff Protection Works	1
Windfarm cabling requirements	1

The Parish Council has objected to one application, registered support for two, no objection to 11 and one remains under consideration. East Suffolk District Council have so far permitted seven of the applications. A schedule of applications upon which the parish is consulted can be found in the News & Events section of the council's website, <https://aldringham.onesuffolk.net>

Tony Wheeler

Parish Councillor

East Suffolk Council

Local Government Reorganisation -Unitary Structure & Mayor To Replace Two-Tier Councils

In future, due to government reforms, all local government services in Suffolk will be delivered by a new unitary council, replacing the current two-tier system. Suffolk County Council is proposing a single, county-wide council while the district councils are advocating for two or three unitary councils to preserve a more 'local' service. County council elections that were cancelled in May 2025 are now due in May 2026.

A new Mayoral Combined Authority is also proposed for Norfolk and Suffolk. Strategic powers over areas such as transport, economic development and housing will be devolved from central government to the mayor aiming to improve local decision making and attract investment. The first mayoral election is planned for May 2026.

Sara Whitelock

East Suffolk Councillor

Proposed Article 4 Direction in Thorpeness Conservation Area

Households in Thorpeness have received notification from ESC that, following a public consultation, an Article 4 direction has met with a majority of objections. The Article, if agreed upon, would have meant that certain external changes to houses, such as Permitted Development, would have required planning permission. This will not now take place, although most of Thorpeness remains in the Conservation Area. *Ed*

Community Emergency Planning

We have now had three heatwaves since June. Our climate is changing and we can expect more heatwaves this year and, we are told, this is now the new 'normal.' Most of us welcome hot weather, but when it is too hot for too long, there are health risks.

In England, there are on average 2,000 heat-related deaths every year. If hot weather hits this summer, make sure it does not harm you or anyone you know. The heat can affect anyone, but some people are at greater risk from it, especially older people and those with underlying health conditions.

As our climate changes, hot spells are expected to be more frequent and more intense. It is important that you know what actions to take to keep yourself and others safe from high temperatures

The main health risks posed by a heatwave are:

- 1 - not having enough water (dehydration).
- 2 - overheating, which can make symptoms worse for people who already have problems with their heart or breathing.
- 3 - heat exhaustion and heatstroke, which are potentially serious conditions that can occur if you get too hot.

The Met Office has published the best ways to stay safe when the heat arrives.

- If you live alone, ask a relative or friend to check, regularly, that you are OK.
- Stay cool indoors and know how to keep your home cool.
- Close curtains, blinds and shutters on rooms that face the sun to keep indoor spaces cooler.
- Don't forget there will be times when it may be cooler outdoors than indoors.
- If going outdoors, use cool spaces considerately, remember the social distancing guidelines.
- Drink plenty of fluids and avoid excess alcohol.
- Never leave anyone in a closed parked vehicle; especially infants, young children or animals.
- Try to keep out of the sun between 11am to 3pm, when the UV rays are strongest.
- If you have to go out walk in the shade, apply sunscreen and wear a wide-brimmed hat.
- Avoid physical exertion in the hottest parts of the day.
- Make sure you take enough water with you, wherever you go.
- Check TV or radio for the latest weather forecast and temperature warnings.
- During warm weather going for a swim can provide much welcomed relief, take care and follow local safety advice, if you are going into open water to cool down.
- Get medical advice if you have concerns about an uncomfortably hot house that is affecting your health or the health of someone else.

Finally, take care and don't forget to look out for your neighbours.

Roger Brown

roger.brown72@btinternet.co

Uppen About – some Parish tales

Uppen: *to mention, disclose or reveal - (a word 'much used around Aldbro' according to Edward Moor's dictionary of Suffolk Dialect published in 1823)*

New Owner for Landmark Cottage?



Caption: Sluice Cottage this spring

It is rumoured that Sluice Cottage, the little, dilapidated house standing in fenland between Thorpeness and Aldeburgh, has been sold. A drawback to previous sales has been its lack of connection to any mod-cons, combined with onerous covenants stipulating what is and is not allowed.

Investigating its history eight years ago, Mick Sturmeay found that the cottage was recorded on maps dated between 1826 and '46, with a large black windmill standing nearby, reputedly used for draining surrounding fenland. The old mill is long gone.

The cottage's last resident in the 1960s was a Mr Tom White and his wife. Tom, it was said, was to be seen regularly pushing a large water butt on wheels to Aldeburgh for a refill, the cottage not being connected to the mains water supply. Many folks who have idly dreamt of restoring this little gem will watch developments with interest.

That's the Way to Do It!

Thorpeness Fete on August 2nd provided a great day out for everybody despite odd showers threatening to dampen the fun.



Caption: Punch and Judy at The Dolphin

If you have any news, or events of interest to the local community, please email details to the editor: Pippa McLardy pimclardy@hotmail.com

As usual, people of all ages enjoyed the Punch and Judy show, Splat the rat attracted the usual motley crew of vermin hunters, and hoards flocked to the cake stall for delicious cakes, pastries and sausage rolls. More than £1500 was raised for Aldeburgh youth club and Leiston 1st Scouts - two great causes to support the younger generation. Many thanks to all who attended and especially to everyone manning the stalls.

Local Groups

Good Neighbours

Our AGM on June 18th was attended by 14 volunteers who enjoyed a glass of wine afterwards. The Steering Group decided not to hold the Garden Party this year, as it attracted very little interest in recent years, and masses of food had been left over. We have also decided to do away with the Volunteers' Coffee Morning at Christmas, and are instead planning a different kind of event to incorporate both, which Arthur and Joy Day have kindly offered to hold at their home in Thorpeness.

Requests for tasks remain quite slack, but as always the biggest demand is for transport to medical facilities. This year has included providing lifts to Papworth in Cambridge, and Moorfields Eye Hospital in London. The Steering Group have all agreed to stand again, so Jo Ogilvie remains our Chairperson, David Jenkins Vice Chair and Joy Day our treasurer.

If you would like to join our band of volunteers, or need some help with a household task, shopping, form filling or transporting, call our helpline on:-

07521 047843

Pippa McLardy

Hon Sec

St Andrew's Church



There were wonderful decorations in the Church to mark Sea Sunday, July 13th. The morning service was an annual event with the collection continuing the work of the Mission to Seafarers, supporting those who sometimes spend nine months of the year away from home.

Later in July, a band of workers gathered in the churchyard to do the annual cutting and raking up of the long grass. This is done once a year as part of the churchyard management plan, to encourage wild flowers and to provide habitat for the local flora and fauna. The PCC met with the Reverends Sarah du Boulay and Mary Brown on July 15 to discuss how to proceed for the next few weeks while Sarah is on a sabbatical. New Treasurer, Sandra Harle was welcomed and departing treasurer David Gordon thanked for his many years of service minding the Church's money.

A Faculty and Planning Permission are in place for the vestry extension project, but it is doubtful that, despite the heroic efforts of the Friends organisation, there is enough money to tackle the whole project immediately. Decisions must be taken on how much of the project can be funded at present, and how to go about the project.

Revd. Sarah explained her reasons for asking parishioners of the Benefice to complete a questionnaire that is available at the rear of the church. Revd. Sarah has been with us for three years and she is taking the temperature of the Benefice. For your voice to be heard, either complete the paper version and put it in the box or scan it and submit it on line by August 31. Directions included.

The July Family Service took place, although poor weather put paid to the picnic in the churchyard. It is hoped there'll be another opportunity to picnic after the August family service on the 24th at 11am. Since the Evensong service due in August coincides with Aldeburgh Carnival it was decided not to hold it this month.

Churchwardens:-

Dorothy Walker 07496 373579 or maryw64244@aol.com
David Copp 07747 030248 or davidcopp@hotmail.com

Friends of St. Andrews

Two of our committee members, Angela and Budge, have resigned from the Friends Committee. Rex Bourne has taken over from Angela as Treasurer. Unfortunately, the Spring Coffee Morning in June was cancelled as we did not have enough people to help. It was decided to concentrate on the Aldeburgh Church Friday Markets. The Friends will be having a Bric a Brac stall and New and Nearly New clothes Rail at The Aldeburgh Church Friday Markets to be held on Friday 1st, 8th, 21st and 29th August from 10am-12noon.

Anne Norton

Friends of St Andrew's

Pilgrim's Together

Hello All,
Hope you are all enjoying the summer so far and with most of August stretching out in front of us there's plenty yet to come.
If you live in Thorpeness you will no doubt have heard us on Sunday mornings near the pond, our gathering music carries on the breeze around the Meare and the local area. As I write this we have had four services so far with four more to go until the end of our summer season. We at Pilgrims love our outside worship and so far the weather has been kind to us, many people come and listen to our music as they are passing by and some stay a little longer. It's lovely to welcome people to our circle of worshippers, many come back year after year whilst holidaying and some just stumble across us. If you wish to join us we only ask that you bring something to sit on, and if you'd like to join us afterwards for a drink and a chat then grab a coffee from one of the local cafes and spend some quality time with us after the service.
We have finished having our Saturday morning breakfasts at the Parrot in Aldringham for the summer and as Chris the landlord is leaving us sometime soon we will have to wait and see if his replacement is happy for us to keep meeting there. If not then maybe it's time to try something different, Pilgrims, as our name

suggests, means we don't stand still for very long but we will always keep everyone up to date with future plans. Landlord Chris has played a monumental part in the popularity of our Saturday breakfasts, we couldn't have done it without him and we are going to greatly miss his kind hospitality.

We still continue our monthly services at Aldringham Court and it's always a pleasure to spend time with staff and patients alike.

As 2025 marches on we will soon be making plans for the Autumn and Winter and already have a few ideas on the back burner. But let's not talk of such things just yet-let's enjoy the rest of the summer and all that that entails. As with many groups of people we are constantly praying for peace in the troubled areas of our world. Man's inhumanity to his fellow man is causing homelessness and anguish to the innocents caught up in the middle of it and now we can add starvation to that unhappy list. Please hold these desperate people in your hearts and prayers in whatever faith you follow.
We wish you a lovely summer with many blessings.

Sue, *on behalf of Pilgrims Together Worship Group.*

Ogilvie Pavilion and Sports Ground CIO

Preparation for the new build is progressing well, we have completed the tender process and with the selected builder, we are ready to start a 40 week build programme as soon as funding is available. Grant applications have been prepared and submitted and we wait optimistically to hear the outcomes.

All our regular summer events are again taking place, the annual coast fun run was held on Sunday 4th May Bank Holiday followed the day after by our regular open day event. This year was a collaborative event with the community combining it with the 80th anniversary VE Day celebrations picnic, all those present enjoyed the additional spectacle of seeing the aircraft flying overhead as they prepared to fly down to London and over Buckingham Palace. We held our annual AGM in June when Trustees were elected and nominated and reports were presented.

The cricket season is in full swing with both home and away games. The summer Bike Meets continue to be very popular with a burger van and bar available, all are welcome and you don't need to have a bike to enjoy a pleasant evening at the pavilion. The regular caravan clubs continue to take advantage of our exceptional site for long weekend rallies.

August as always is our busiest month: We welcomed back The Alzheimer's Society for their second fund raising Trek26 event held on Saturday 2nd; a couple of local groups will be holding their annual cricket matches; there are a number of private events planned; the field will be used to provide parking for Thorpeness fireworks and the annual Cricket Club - Classic Vehicle Rally will be held on Bank holiday Sunday 24th.

The five-a-side football pitch is being well used and is now the permanent home for a walking football group. The picnic area has now been established and is fully accessible for all to use. We are collaborating with the Croquet Club who have established a Community Croquet Project with the aim of creating a 'croquet community' by combining the sport of croquet with facilitated exercise and social activities, particularly

targeting older people and those with limited mobility and other health problems.

Groups now making regular use of the Pavilion and Sports Ground are: The Croquet club on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays (contact thorpenesscroquet@outlook.com); the Cricket Club for nets practice on Tuesday evenings 6pm (Contact Francis Byrne 07775 791441);

Uke-N-Smile ukulele club on every Wednesday morning (contact iclampin@btinternet.com); the fun quiz on the fourth Thursday evening of the month (contact zenamassey08@btinternet.com); Walking football every Thursday 11am (contact John Sibley 07932 698196) and all the Parish Council meetings (see parish website for details). The Walking Football Club every Thursday 11am till 12.30 (contact John Sibley 07932 698196)

If you would like to hire the pavilion or sports ground or receive our regular newsletter, please contact us via the Pavilion's website: <https://www.ogilviepavilion.org>

Ogilvie Pavilion and Sports Ground Trustees

Thorpeness Cricket Club **Remaining matches**

Tuesday 12th August V Halesworth Pumas Home 6pm

Sunday 17th August V Ashby St Mary Away

Wednesday 3rd September V Andrew Heald Team
Friston Green 6pm

Sunday 14th September V Toft Monks Home

We're always welcoming to new players

Nets Tuesdays at 6pm free

We're always looking for players both for pub style all comers standard as well as league level of cricket.

Francis 07775791441

Classic Vehicle Rally

Sunday 24th August 10am till 4pm at Ogilvie Pavilion

Cars motorcycles & tractors made before 1990 free entry

Spectators £5 per car

Stalls £10

Live music : Rockin' Blues by Nick Ward & friends

Be good to have more local people involved either running stalls or with activities.

Francis Byrne 07775791441

byrneengineering@zohomail.eu

Thorpeness and Aldringham Heritage Group



The Heritage Centre is open on Saturdays and Sundays until October, plus extra days over the Bank Holiday

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weekend. It is manned between 11am and 3pm, the rota being expertly organised by Elizabeth Tipping. Elizabeth is always on the lookout for helpers to lighten the load; a huge thank you to her, and to everyone who takes a turn manning the Centre.

Visitors often remark on the seaside garden and picnic area, where everyone, locals and visitors, can sit, eat, and relax, as well as look at what's on show at our Centre. Thank you to Chris and Maureen Jones, who ensure that the garden looks good all year round. We even have a water bowl for our four-legged friends. This summer, the huge umbrellas, kindly donated by David James at the Dolphin, have proved invaluable during very hot weather.

Off the boardwalk en-route to the beach, there is a new replacement bench made from black, recycled plastic, fixed in the same place as the old wooden one that had become rotten over many years. This was jointly funded by the Parish Council and TAHG as mentioned on a plaque on the bench.

A commemorative wooden display board is now on the gabion wall in the garden area. We are proud to display brass plaques commemorating past members and residents who have been involved in TAHG, alongside individuals who just love Thorpeness. If you are interested in remembering someone, please get in touch. On Thursday 19th June we spent an enjoyable afternoon at Sizewell Hall at our very first Garden Party, held on the terrace. Good weather, tasty food and loyal supporters made a delightful afternoon. Thank you to everyone who was involved in producing such a delightful tea and to all who attended.

A Volunteer Thanks Event took place on the afternoon of Sunday August 3rd at the Heritage Centre – a small way of saying thanks to our members who look after the Heritage Centre for our visitors.

More events are always being investigated for our members.

None of these events or running the Heritage Centre could have taken place without the hard work of the Committee and a committed group of volunteers who give up their time so generously.

Richard Bodek

Chairman

Neighbourhood Watch

With little to report, I should feel fortunate, as this hopefully means there hasn't been too much crime, or undesirable incidents in our lovely village. Since the break-in at the Dolphin office during May, all seems to have been quiet, and hopefully it will stay that way. As I type this on 23rd July, many houses are now occupied. Bicycles are strewn across paths, or abandoned anywhere, and many feel that every road is pedestrianised!!!

All I will say, once again, don't be too complacent. There is always the opportunist who could take advantage. Be aware of your neighbours, which really is what Neighbourhood Watch is all about. Friendship, and awareness of any who may need help.

Enjoy the rest of the summer, and may we continue to be a 'crime free' village.'

Evelyn Rumsby (Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator)
(Evelynrumsby@aol.com)

USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

Aldringham cum Thorpe Parish Councillors

Maureen Jones	Chairperson	01728 453915
Bill Seale	Vice-Chairperson	01728 832306
Tony Wheeler		01728 831845
Sara Paulley		01728 454990
Denise Lupton		01728 598198
Shirley Tilbrook	Parish Clerk	01728 830001

District Councillors

Tom Daly		
tom.daly@eastsoffolk.gov.uk		07825 720877
Sarah Whitelock		
sarah.whitelock@eastsoffolk.gov.uk		07824 452388
Katie Graham		
katie.graham@eastsoffolk.gov.uk		07968 077446

County Councillor

TJ Haworth- Culf		
tj.haworth-culf@suffolk.gov.uk		07955 434442

Police - Suffolk Constabulary**Always Dial 999 for Emergencies, including Coastguard**

Non Urgent Issues		101
Community Police Inspector Liz Casey		
Elizabeth.casey@suffolk.pnn.police.uk		
PC 80 Cole Aryaenia		
cpt.halesworth@suffolk.police.uk		

Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

Aldringham – Maria Chapman-Beer		
tribunegang@gmail.com		
(Aldeburgh Rd and roads off except Aldringham Park, to borders with Leiston, Aldeburgh, and down Thorpe Rd towards Thorpeness)		
Thorpeness – Evelyn Rumsby		07809 840924

Hospitals

Aldeburgh & District Community Hospital		
Park Road, Aldeburgh		01728 443850
Ipswich Hospital Heath Road		01473 712233

Doctors' Surgeries

The Peninsular Practice		
Church Farm, Victoria Road, Aldeburgh		01394 411641
The Surgery, Main Street, Leiston		01728 830526
The Surgery,		
Lamsale Meadow, Saxmundham		01728 602022

<u>Non-emergency</u> health problems advice		111
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<u>Power cut line</u> 0800 31 63 105 or simply call		105
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Dental Surgeons

Aldeburgh Dental Practice		
167 High Street, Aldeburgh		01728 453333
Saxmundham Dental Surgery		
9 High Street, Saxmundham		01728 602537
Leiston Dental Care		01728 561873

Pharmacies

Aldeburgh Pharmacy		
125 High Street, Aldeburgh		01728 452763
Leiston Pharmacy		01728 832231
East of England Coop Pharmacy		
High Street, Saxmundham		01728 602051

Veterinary Surgeons

Aldeburgh Vets		
Hall Farm Lane, Saxmundham Rd, Aldeburgh		
contact@aldeburghvets.co.uk		01728 598111
Leiston Veterinary Clinic		
1d Eastlands, Leiston		01728 833566
Fromus Veterinary Group Fromus House,		
Street Farm Road, Saxmundham		01728 602599

Thorpeness Croquet Club

Alastair Mcelroy		croquetcommunity@outlook.com
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Good Neighbours Group

Help Line		07521 047843
Chairperson Jo Ogilvie		07594 238061
Hon Sec Pippa McLardy		plmclardy@hotmail.com

Local Heritage Group

Chairperson Richard Bodek		
richard.bodek@btinternet.com		
info@tahg.org.uk		
Volunteer's Rota		
Mrs Elizabeth Tipping		
01728 454165 or email -		eatipping@talk21.com .

St Andrew's Church

Churchwardens David Copp		01728 635816
Dorothy Walker		07496 373579 maryw64244@aol.com

Ogilvie Pavilion

Eric Atkinson		01728 830497
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Thorpeness Cricket Club

Mr F Byrne		07775 791441
Email: byrneengineering@zohomail.eu		

<u>Connecting Communities Transport</u>		01728 635938
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Border Buses

		01502 714565
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WHAT'S ON from AUGUST 2025

Date	Place	Event
August		
Fri 1 st 8 th , 22 nd , 29 th 10am	Aldeburgh Church Hall	St Andrew's Stall at Friday Markets
Sat 2 nd	Ogilvie Sports Ground	Alzheimer's Soc Trek26
12 Noon - 3pm	Dolphin Thorpeness	Thorpeness Village Fete
Sun 10 th 3pm	St Andrew's Church	Animal Service
Tues 12 th 2pm-4pm	Mill Hill Green Aldringham	Coffee Caravan
Tues 12 th 6pm	Ogilvie Sports Ground Thorpeness	Cricket match V Halesworth Pumas
Sun 17 th 11am	St Andrew's Church	BCP Communion with Rev. Bruce Gillingham
5pm	St Andrew's Church	Evensong (CANCELLED)
Sun 17 th	Away	Cricket match V Ashby St Mary Away
Mon 18 th	Aldeburgh	Carnival - parade usually around 3.30pm
Tues 19 th 4.30pm	Upstairs, Thorpeness Country Club	EMERGENCY COASTAL EROSION MEETING
Thur 21 st	Thorpeness Meare	Regatta
Fri 22 nd	Various – see below	Mobile Library
Fri 22 nd	Thorpeness Meare	Regatta final day followed by Decorated floats (around 8pm) and Fireworks (usually around 9pm)
Sun 24 th	Ogilvie Sports Ground	Classic Car Rally and More!
Sun 24 th 11am	St Andrew's Church	Family Service followed by picnic (weather permitting)
Sun 31 st 11am	St Andrew's Church	Benefice Holy Communion Service
September		
Mon 1 st	County-wide for SCC Schools	Start of Autumn School term, but check for possible PD (Professional Development) days on 1/9 and 2/9
Wed 3 rd 6pm	Away	Cricket match V Andrew Heald Team Friston Green
Sat 13 th	Benefice-wide	Suffolk Historic Churches Trust, Ride & Stride
Sun 14 th 11am	St Andrew's Church	Battle of Britain Service,
Sun 14 th	Ogilvie Sports Ground	Cricket match V Toft Monks
Sun 28 th 11am	St Andrew's Church	Harvest Festival Service
October		
Fri 24 th	County-wide for SCC Schools	Last day of first half of Autumn term but check for possible PD (Professional Development) day on 24/10

Every Thursday morning at St Andrew's Church 9am– Morning Prayers with Revd Sarah du Boulay. Every Sunday – St Andrew's Church Services 11am Pilgrims Together:- Every Wednesday 6.30pm on Zoom– weekly worship followed by get-together- suspended for August, back in Sept (TBC). **First Sat of the month 9.30am Outside Inn (Parrot) breakfast bap and ramble. Third Sat, Outside Inn 9.30am, 'Encounter' - Coffee and Croissant breakfast – please check close to date as Parrot may be under new management.** Second Sunday of the month(4pm) Pilgrim's Service and refreshment in The Pavilion . Every 4th Thursday of the month after morning prayers, BOBS meet to carry out tasks in the Church and Churchyard .

Last Wednesday of every month – Community Coffee Morning at the Dolphin Thorpeness.**Second Wednesday of every month – Community Coffee morning at The Parrot Aldringham - please check close to date as Parrot may be under new management** Fourth Wednesday of every month – Quiz at the Pavilion, Thorpeness Also at The Pavilion :- Croquet, Weds, Fri, Sat; Uke n Smile Weds; Cricket nets Sun 2pm Mobile Library Friday . Aldringham Ogilvie Homes 9.30am -10, Thorpe Almshouses 10.10-10.40, Aldringham Almshouses 10.45-11, Aldringham Mill Hill 11.05 -11.20