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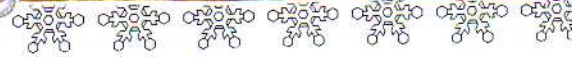
Great Holland Village Voice



December 2013
&
January 2014



Winter

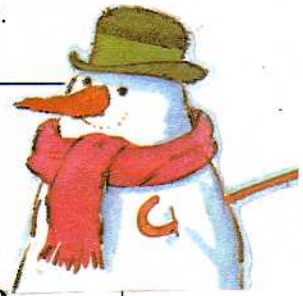




... to the December 2013/January 2014 edition of **Village Voice**.

Included in this edition...

- **Minutes of the most recent meetings of Great Holland Residents' Association and The Village Hall Committee of Management**
- **Update on the former Village Stores**
- **News about a Village Hall fundraising event next February**



Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this edition of Village Voice. We always welcome new contributors. Is there anything that **YOU** would like us to include in the next edition? For example:

- Are there any events happening in February or March 2014 that you wish to publicise?
- Do you have any local news items to be included?
- Do you want to tell other villagers about a local group/club?
- Can you write an article for the magazine?
- Do you want to advertise any items for sale/your business/service?

Please contact Linda on **852195** or Sandra on **672453** with details, two weeks before the printing date if possible. Please note that Sandra deals with the advertising side of the magazine. The next edition of Village Voice will be printed on:

Tuesday 21st January 2014



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Village Contacts and Local Information



Member of Parliament	Mr Douglas Carswell MP	423112
Residents' Association	Lucy Margetts (Chair)	815014
All Saints' Church Minister	Rev. Mark Holdaway	675997
Methodist Church Minister	Rev. Eva Walker	851179
Village Hall Committee	Ms Sue Jenkins (Chair) Mrs F Harris (Bookings)	850317 830136
Great Holland Village Stores	Main Road	674359
Frinton & Walton Town Council (Incorporating Frinton, Walton, Kirby and Great Holland)	Mrs Myrna Liles (Town Clerk) Cllr. Mr Christopher Keston	676666 850067
Tendring District Council	Town Hall, Station Road, Clacton CO15 1SE Cllr. Mr Robert J Bucke Cllr. Mr Mark A Cossens	686868 (Emergency/ Out of Hours: 2220220) 677495 861374
Dog Warden	(Tendring District Council)	0845 2417253
Essex County Council	Cllr. Mr Michael (Mick) Page	672410
Neighbourhood Watch Administrator	Please call 101 and ask to speak to Paul Teague.	
Crime Reduction Officer	Please call 101 and ask to speak to David Gillies.	
Crimestoppers	0800 555111	
Mobile Library	Calls fortnightly every other Thursday at Rosery Mews only. Arrives 10.00am, departs 10.30am - see Diary page for dates.	
Civic Amenity Tip	<p>Maltings Lane, Kirby-le-Soken.</p> <p>The Civic Amenity Tip opens at 9.00am.</p> <p><u>The Tip is closed every Tuesday and Wednesday.</u></p> <p>Winter opening times (until 29th February 2012): 9.00am- 4.00pm Summer opening times (1st March-15th October): 9.00am-5.00pm</p> <p>Late night opening during summer no longer takes place.</p>	



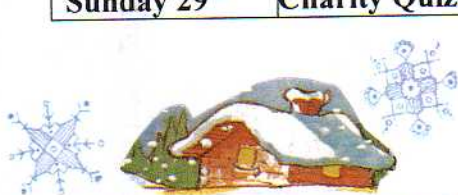
Dates for your Diary ...

December

Joy



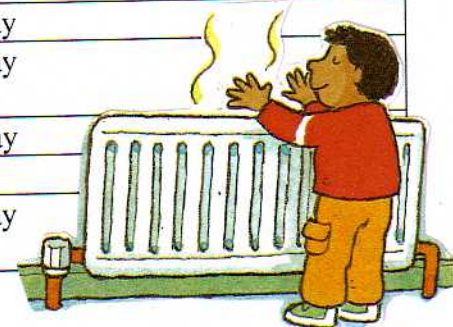
Monday 2nd	TFL meeting: Frinton Methodist Church Hall, 2.30pm. Christmas Social. More about this friendly social club elsewhere in magazine.
Thursday 5th	Coffee Morning: Methodist Church, 10.30am-12.00 midday Mobile Library visits Rosery Mews.
Saturday 7th	CHRISTMAS HOME MADE HOUR: Village Hall, 10.00-11.00am The Twelve Days of Christmas' - Open weekend: Methodist Church, 10.00am-4.00pm. Refreshments available. More details elsewhere in magazine. PCSO Surgery: Parker's Nursery, Frinton Road, Kirby Cross, 10.00-11.00am.
Sunday 8th	The Twelve Days of Christmas' - Open weekend: Methodist Church, 2.00-4.00pm.
Thursday 12th	Coffee Morning: Methodist Church, 10.30am-12.00 midday
Friday 13th	Late Night Shopping in Frinton: 5.00-9.00pm.
Saturday 14th	'The Twelve Days of Christmas' - Open weekend: Methodist Church, 10.00am-4.00pm. Refreshments available. Includes Christmas Fayre with various stalls, 10.00am-2.00pm.
Sunday 15th	The Twelve Days of Christmas' - Open weekend: Methodist Church, 2.00-4.00pm. Refreshments available.
Thursday 19th	Coffee Morning: Methodist Church, 10.30am-12.00 midday. Mobile Library visits Rosery Mews. Community carol singing around the Christmas Tree: Outside Village Stores, 6.00pm
Sunday 29th	Charity Quiz Night at The Ship. Starts 8.00pm



January



Thursday 2nd	Coffee Morning: Methodist Church, 10.30am-12.00 midday
Saturday 4th	NO HOME MADE HOUR
Monday 6th	TFL meeting: Frinton Methodist Church Hall, 2.30pm. Terry Allen will speak about his life and what led him into politics.
Thursday 9th	Coffee Morning: Methodist Church, 10.30am-12.00 midday
Thursday 16th	Coffee Morning: Methodist Church, 10.30am-12.00 midday Mobile Library visits Rosery Mews.
Thursday 23rd	Coffee Morning: Methodist Church, 10.30am-12.00 midday
Sunday 26th	Charity Quiz Night at The Ship. Starts 8.00pm
Thursday 30th	Coffee Morning: Methodist Church, 10.30am-12.00 midday Mobile Library visits Rosery Mews.



FEBRUARY

Saturday 8th	★ MEETING OF GREAT HOLLAND RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION: ★ Village Hall, 10.30am
Saturday 22nd	Beetle Drive: Village Hall, 2.00-5.00pm. More about this event elsewhere in magazine.

To include events for **February or March 2014** in the Diary section of the next edition of **Village Voice**, please contact Linda on **852195** or Sandra on **672453** by **15 January** if possible.



PLEASE RING ELAINE ON **674809** FOR DETAILS OF EVENTS PLANNED AT THE SHIP DURING DECEMBER 2013 AND JANUARY 2014

All Saints' Church



Rector's article ...

Friday 22 November was the 50th anniversary of the assassination of J F Kennedy. There were many programmes on TV and radio commemorating it. We hear of what might have been if it had been raining that morning and the car had its roof up, if the bodyguard had moved quicker (everyone knows he did the best he possibly could), if the gunman had missed, and so on.

If he hadn't died, how much would he have achieved? How different would America now be? How different would the world be?

Was that the most important event in the past century?

On the same day, also 50 years ago, another man died, also known by his initials. It was C S Lewis. No-one thinks of his death as the most important event in the century, and he would certainly agree. But, he did write about an event more important than JFK's death. It wasn't the most important event of the past century, but far more important than that. C S Lewis was not only a children's writer and English Professor, but a Christian and a Christian writer.

Although not always keen on everything that the Christmas festival brought, he knew how important the event at the heart of it was.

His most famous line about it comes in *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. There in Narnia it is "*always winter but never Christmas.*"

But the moment Aslan the Lion, his picture of Jesus, appears the snow thaws and Father Christmas arrives.

Christmas is about the arrival of Jesus, the King of the world who makes himself low for others and with it should come a message of joy and warmth.

We invite you to join us in the celebration and hear more of that message.



NEW THIS YEAR!

Carol singing outside the Post Office for all the family
Thursday 19th December at 6.00pm

All Saints' Christingle Service
Saturday 21st December at 4.00pm

All Saints' Carols by Candlelight
with mulled wine and mince pies and the Tendring Male Voice Choir
Christmas Eve at 6.30pm

Mark





From All Saints' Diary - DECEMBER:

Sunday	1st	11.00am	Advent Morning Service
Wednesday	4 th	11.00am	All Saints' Bible Group in the Parish Room
		2.00pm	Friendship & Interest Group at St Michael's Church Hall
Saturday	7 th	10.00am	HOME MADE HOUR Christmas Special!!
Sunday	8th	8.00am	Joint Holy Communion with our friends from St Michael's
		11.00am	Morning Service
Wednesday	11 th	11.00am	All Saints' Bible Group in the Parish Room
Thursday	12 th	1.00pm	Christmas Parish Lunch at St Michael's Church Hall
Sunday	15th	11.00am	Holy Communion
Tuesday	17 th	7.00pm	Special Needs Service at St Michael's Church
Wednesday	18 th	2.00pm	Friendship & Interest Group at St Michael's Church Hall
Thursday	19 th	tba	Carols around the tree
Saturday	21 st	4.00pm	Christmas Tree & Christingle Service
Sunday	22nd	11.00am	Morning Service
Tuesday	24 th	6.30pm	Carols by Candlelight
Wednesday	25 th	8.00am	Holy Communion
		9.30pm	Christmas Day Holy Communion service at St Michael's
			No service at Great Holland
Sunday	29th	9.30am	Joint All-Age Holy Communion service at Kirby

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL

From All Saints' Diary - JANUARY 2014:

Wednesday	1 st	2.00pm	Friendship and Interest Group in St Michael's Church Hall
Sunday	5th	11.00am	Morning Service
Sunday	12th	8.00am	Joint Holy Communion with our friends from St Michael's
		11.00am	Morning Service
Wednesday	15 th	2.00pm	Friendship and Interest Group in St Michael's Church Hall
Thursday	16 th	1.00pm	Parish Lunch at St Michael's Church Hall
Sunday	19th	11.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday	26th	11.00am	Morning Service
Tuesday	28 th	2.15pm	"Teapot" at the Baker Hall. A time to meet friends and enjoy Tea and home made cakes.

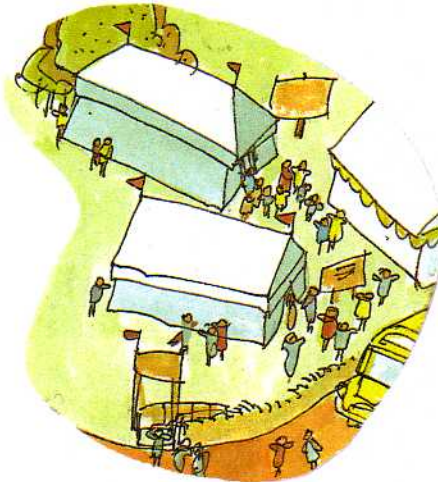
New Year dates for All Saints Bible Group to be announced.



FROM THE REGISTERS:

INTERMENT OF ASHES in the churchyard:

(Enid) Alison Eldridge



Great Holland Church and Village Fête 2013

I am pleased to advise that the Fête committee has decided to make its charitable donation for 2013 to the Village Hall, to be used towards the refurbishments currently being undertaken.

The amount available to donate each year is 10% of net proceeds.

Charitable donations for the last three years have been:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Recipient</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2011	Village Hall (disabled car park)	£424.07
2012	Gingerbread pre-school	£474.52
2013	Village Hall (refurbishments)	£455.00

Anne Fairbrother
Fête Treasurer

★ Great Holland Church and Village Fête 2014 ★

We were short of helpers this year, so the Fête Committee we would like to ask if you could all have a think over the coming year about what you could do to support "our" Fete next year. For example, would you be able to spare a couple of hours to give a hand, bake a cake or donate a prize?

**If you would like to be involved next year please contact:
Sue Jenkins on 01255 850317 or Nickie Stack on 01255 677984.**



Home Made Hour



Thank you to everyone who supported our November Home Made Hour and for the donations of home made goods and produce.

Our Christmas Home Made Hour will take place on **Saturday 7th December** from 10.00-11.00am in the Village Hall. Please come and join us for tea, coffee, friendly company, and the sale of home made cakes, jam, marmalade, trifles, savouries, scones etc, occasional plants/garden produce and hand crafted greetings cards. Refreshments are available and we also have a raffle. As usual, there will be NO Home Made Hour in January.

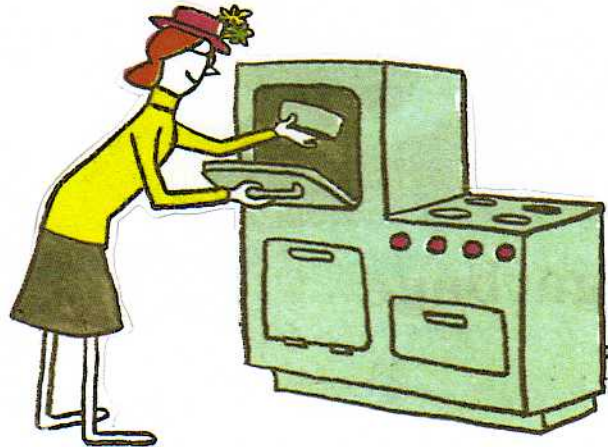


Yule Slice

I made this for the first time last year and it was a great success. It is perfect for health-conscious people who still like a Christmas treat, this is dairy-free and full of fruit and nuts.

Ingredients

- 200g walnuts halves
- 100g hazelnuts
- 50g blanched almonds
- 200g raisins
- 100g pitted dates, chopped
- 200g dried apricots, chopped
- 140g glacé cherries or pineapple
- 100g plain flour
- 2 tsp mixed spice
- ½ tsp baking powder
- 175g dark muscovado sugar
- 3 eggs
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- icing sugar, for dusting



Method

1. Heat oven to 150C/fan 130C/gas 2. Line the base and sides of a 1.5-litre loaf tin (a long thin one is best) with baking parchment. Mix the nuts and dried fruit thoroughly in a large bowl using your hands. Sift in the flour, spice and baking powder, then add the sugar and mix everything well. Beat the eggs with the vanilla, then add to the dry mix, turning everything together well until there is no dry mix visible.

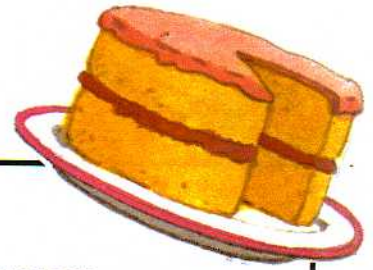
2. Turn into the prepared tin and smooth the top. Bake for 1½-1¾ hrs, then cool in the tin for 15 mins. Turn out, peel off the paper and cool on a wire rack. Dust the top thickly with icing sugar, to serve.

ENJOY!

Karen Withams



MERRY CHRISTMAS



Home Made Hours

Our friendly Home Made Hours help to raise funds for All Saints' Church. **THANK YOU** to everyone who supports these events, particularly those who regularly donate home made/home grown produce for us to sell.

Are YOU able to provide any items for our Home Made Hours, please? We would be particularly grateful for donations of home made cakes, which are always popular. We also welcome home made preserves and any surplus fruit, vegetables or plants from the garden. **If you want to find out more about our Home Made Hours, please contact Nickie Stack on 677984.**

ALL SAINTS' PARISH CHURCH WHO'S WHO

RECTOR: Rev. Mark Holdaway, The Rectory, 10 Thorpe Road, Kirby Cross CO13 0LT, (675997)

CHURCHWARDENS: John Beale, 5 Malting Lane, Kirby le Soken CO13 0EH (676472) and Judith Little, Lambourn House, Little Clacton Road, Great Holland, CO13 0EY (813645)

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL: Churchwardens (ex officio), Sheila Watts (ex officio), Don Osler, Jamie Wright, Vanessa Giles and Ilze Robertson

HON. SECRETARY TO THE PCC: Judith Little

VICE CHAIR TO THE PCC: John Beale

HON. TREASURER TO THE PCC: Sheila Watts c/o The Rectory, 10 Thorpe Road, Kirby Cross CO13 0LT, (675997)

SIDESPERSIONS: Wilf Barnes, Rose Batten, Don Osler and Jamie Wright

MAGAZINE PRODUCTION TEAM: Sandra Mooney and Linda O'Reilly (Joint Editors), Mim Wilson, Irene Lightowler, Michele Frere, Ingrid Harding, Judith Little, Eric Elsworth, Audrey Warren, June Forrest, Charmian Goundry, Iain Bell, Eileen Derrick, Pauline Knight, Christine Oxford and Chris Crispin (Distributors)

Church Hall - All Saints' Great Holland

The Church Hall is situated next to All Saint's and is available for bookings from the general public. The accommodation comprises a pleasant carpeted room with six easy chairs, plus seating for about a dozen people, a small kitchen with tea/coffee making facilities and microware, entrance hall and two toilets (one disabled). The cost of hire is £5 per hour from May - September and £7 per hour October - April (to cover extra heating and lighting costs). To hire the Hall please contact **Judith Little** on **813645**.

Great Holland Methodist Church



The Christmas Gift

As I am writing this in November, many of you will have only just started to think of Christmas, or if you are well organised, you will have bought all your presents.

So, as I sit here, I wonder: What does Christmas mean to us?

What does Christmas mean to us in November, on Christmas morning, in January or in August?

I heard a story somewhere of a rich man and his son who loved art and travelled the world to collect art, adding the finest art treasures to their collections. When the war came, the son was drafted and he gave his life on that war. Sometime later, on Christmas morning, a soldier came to the door of the old man and brought a large present with him. He introduced himself as the one the son was trying to save when he was killed. And the present was a portrait of his son, not a work of genius according to many art critics, but the best present someone could have possibly given the father, the most cherished possession. The portrait seemed to capture the son's personality.

The time passed and the father also passed away, and all his collection was put up in auction. The art world was so excited! The first item was the picture of his son. As the auctioneer asked for an opening bid, the room fell silent. The art collectors from all over the world hadn't come to buy amateur art, they had come for the best of the best. So they grumbled.

Finally, a friend of the old man bid 100 dollars, saying that he knew the son and would like to have it. Nobody else bid, so the friend of the old man won that item.

As the first item was sold, the auctioneer said to everyone: 'The auction is now closed!' Art lovers got angry, and they demanded an explanation. And the explanation was simple: "According to the will of the father, whoever takes the son... gets it all."

At Christmas the Son came for all of us. The Son, Jesus Christ, came to live on this earth, to live a human life, a life where he laughed, a life where he loved, a life where he wept, a life where he experienced friendship, denial, betrayal, loyalty, a life like ours. And as he lived our lives, he gave us life from His, he invited us to have life to the fullest.

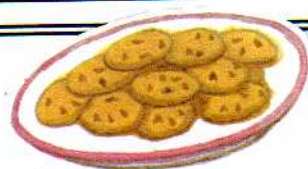
As we answer the question: 'What does Christmas mean for us?' in our everyday life, let us remember that at Christmas we receive **A GIFT FOR LIFE**, we receive **THE GIFT OF LIFE**. Because, whoever takes the son....gets it all.....Amen!

Rev. Eva Walker

REMINDER!

Just a reminder that we hold weekly coffee mornings in Great Holland Methodist Church Hall.

They take place **every Thursday morning from 10.30am - 12.00 midday**. Please drop in for coffee, biscuits, toasted teacakes and the chance to make new friends. We also have donated goods for sale. Please note that **there will be no coffee morning on Thursday 26th December.**



GREAT HOLLAND METHODIST CHURCH INVITES YOU TO



CONCERT
PERFORMED BY
'MUSIC MAKERS'



WEDNESDAY, 11TH DECEMBER AT 7 P.M.

PERFORMING 'NIGHT OF MIRACLES AND OTHER CHRISTMAS MUSIC
(FREE ENTRY)

'THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS'
PRESENTED IN FLOWER AND DECORATION

OPEN WEEKENDS

SATURDAY, 7TH DECEMBER : 10 A.M. – 4 P.M.

SUNDAY, 8TH DECEMBER : 2 P.M. – 4 P.M.

SATURDAY, 14TH DECEMBER : 10 A.M. – 4 P.M.
(INCLUDING CHRISTMAS FAYRE WITH VARIOUS STALLS : 10 A.M. – 2 P.M.)

SUNDAY, 15TH DECEMBER : 2 P.M. – 4 P.M.

(LIGHT REFRESHMENTS SERVED)



Harvest Festival

**CHAIRMAN'S LETTER
GREAT HOLLAND RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
NOVEMBER 2013**



Dear All,

Great Holland Residents Association

First of all, the next GHRA meeting is set for **Saturday, 8th February 2014 at 10.30 a.m.**

The aims and objectives are:

- To promote and preserve the village community and its environment
- To provide an organizational body to support local projects
- To be aware of, and responsive to, local planning matters
- To liaise with other Residents' Associations as appropriate

If you have anything you would like addressed then please let me know two weeks in advance so that we can include it in the agenda.

The GHRA membership now stands at 61 households out of a total of over 400 properties. If you would like to join then please contact our Treasurer, Denys Strich.

The issues covered at the last meeting were as follows:

Planning – Cllr. Guglielmi was not available to attend the last meeting but he sent an email answering some of the questions we wanted to raise with him:

- Elm Todd wind turbines
- Sladbury's Solar Farm
- The Paddocks
- Dementia Home

The progress of the Village Stores

The Village Fete, Church Lane/The Close footpath issues, the benches outside All Saints Church and other brief items

Treasurer's Report

PCSO's Report

If you are a member and would like a copy of the minutes please let me know.

Some of you will be aware that there is a lot of interest in the Great Holland Nurseries site in Church Lane. The site has been bought by a local developer who is moving quickly to clear the site. This is causing a lot of distress and consternation amongst the residents and yet again raises the issue of the over-development of Great Holland.

The Sladbury's Solar Farm application has also been resubmitted under ref. 13/01292/FUL.

The Local Plan is also going to be available for public consultation early next year. This redefines the settlement boundaries over which the previous consultation threw up many objections.

With these major issues going on I will be suggesting an Extraordinary Meeting to give residents the opportunity to voice any queries they may have.

Kind regards,

Lucy Margetts

Chair

Great Holland Residents' Association Meeting

Date : Saturday, 5 October 2013
Venue : Village Hall



Great Holland Residents Association

Minutes

Lucy Margetts – Chairman
David Masters – Secretary
Denys and Lindi Strich – Treasurers

1. **Apologies for absence**
Karen & Paul Withams, John Poulten, Eddie Forrest
2. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**
Approved pre-meeting by John Poulten
3. **Matters Arising**
None from the previous meeting.

Presentation of gift vouchers for a meal at The Ship to John Poulten and Paul Withams in recognition of their services as Chairman and Secretary of the GHRA. Cards will be delivered to them as they were both absent.

4. **PCSO Report**
Only minor incidents have been reported in the village including one road traffic accident. The PCSO advised that Great Holland remains a safe and relatively crime free area although it is recommended to continue to be vigilant. Officers have continued to monitor speeding in the village and, once again, asked if any members who would like to be trained to use the speed gun should contact them. They are monitoring parking issues at the Lions Den.
5. **Treasurers' Report**
Present bank balance is £2725.44 and cash of £173.45. There are 45 members. Thanks given to Tim Reynolds for acting as an independent examiner of GHRA accounts for the January to December 2012 accounts. Copies available from Treasurers on request.
(PS: At and since the meeting a further 16 residents have joined the GHRA bringing the number to 61 households out of a total of over 400.)
6. **Planning**
 - A. Cllr. Guglielmi was invited to come to the meeting but was unable to attend. He did agree however to answer questions via email. He further promised to keep GHRA informed regarding dates for the Local Plan development and consultation over the next few weeks.
 - B. Elm Todd wind turbines given the go-ahead but Windcrop have subsequently gone bust so the project is unlikely to happen as it won't be financially beneficial.
 - C. Solar Farm – the application has been withdrawn for the time being but it will be back. The efforts of GHRA have not been wasted and the fight will go on when they

reinstate the application. Thanks were given to Eddie Forrest for the huge effort, time and energy he has put into this fight.

- D. The Paddocks – this development was approved because the land is now within the village envelope although the new settlement boundaries have not been finalised in the Local Plan.
- E. Dementia Home – apparently the close care flats fall within the same class as a care home. Therefore there is no problem with the developers advertising them as luxury homes. Paul Fletcher will take this further.

7. Post Office

The flat above is being refurbished as a self-contained unit and negotiations are in progress for a new tenant to run the shop and local post office. It is proposed that the Post Office will offer services such as mail, banking and bill payments, but not DVLA or passport services.

8. Any Other Business

- A. Village Fete – GHRA presence at the Village Fete was deemed a success. A banner was made and a Treasure Hunt organised. 50% of the funds, amounting to £50.29, were donated to the Church fund. Thanks were given to Louise Goodwin for all her help.
- B. GHRA attended the Methodist Church Fun Day.
- C. Church Lane footpath is overgrown. Mr Williams suggested getting together to clear it but Paul Fletcher has offered. The farmer has blocked access to his field both from Church Lane and The Close. Graham Hughes is looking into this with the Council. The designated footpath is still clear.
- D. Malcolm Graham is no longer joint secretary due to personal reasons (*see below). Help needed for typing duties and Sandra Mooney and Margaret Frere have offered their help.
- E. June Forrest mentioned that the benches, donated from the proceeds of the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations last year, are now in place outside the church and look very smart.
- F. Other matters mentioned were: the shortages of GPs, street lighting being turned off overnight and the hedges have finally been cut along Main Road.

*A volunteer is needed to take on the role of co-Secretary following the resignation of Malcolm Graham as indicated in the minutes- ideally someone who has access to email, is happy to take and produce minutes of meetings and organise the booking of the hall for meetings.

The Village Hall Committee is inviting a member of the Great Holland Residents' Association, as a regular user of the Hall, to join them. This is required as part of their constitution. Anyone who has an interest on taking on this role should contact Lucy Margetts (815014) in order that the relevant form can be completed and signed on behalf of the GHRA.



PROPOSED SLADBURYS SOLAR FARM - Planning Application No 13/01292/FUL

Having withdrawn the previous application, Push Energy has now submitted this new application to TDC for planning permission.

The scheme is the same as the previous one – to erect 48,000 photo voltaic panels on sloping arable fields of 64 acres at the bottom of Little Clacton Road, adjacent to the Holland Brook SSSI opposite Great Holland Common. Again the applicant claims that the development can be adequately screened and will have little visual impact on the landscape; such claims are nonsense. There is little doubt that the site has been selected because it is adjacent to the Cookes Green substation and therefore minimises grid connection costs to the developer.

There is an alternative site in the same ownership, one that would not be so visually intrusive, could be easily screened with additional low hedging, and would avoid despoiling the Holland Brook valley, but it would entail higher grid connection costs to the developer. The landowner also hopes that this alternative site might be designated for housing at some time in the future and is probably therefore reluctant to have it tied up with a solar farm! It seems clear that both developer and landowner are motivated by financial gain with no regard for our treasured landscape.

Opposition to this scheme is not about opposing renewable energy schemes in general but making a stand for siting them appropriately with due consideration for preserving our landscapes.

Such schemes are only viable because of the government subsidies and tariffs paid from our taxes and the premiums levied on our energy bills, and the use of cheap foreign manufactured and imported panels.

In his speech to the Large Scale Solar Conference in April this year, Greg Barker MP, the Minister for Energy and Climate Change said, ***“where solar farms are not on brownfield land, you must be looking at low grade agricultural land..”***. The proposed site is not “low grade” but “good” quality arable land, (Agricultural Land Classification 3a), which has grown food crops for years. If you are familiar with the previous application you will know that Push Energy inferred that it was poor quality and *“unsuited to arable farming”*, a blatant misrepresentation. There is a national policy of protecting our good quality agricultural land but this tends to go unenforced when alternative uses are said to be temporary. 25 years will see a lot of us gone!

The Minister also said that the Government wanted to see a lot more solar ***“but not at any cost.....not in any place.....not if it rides roughshod over the views of local communities”....we must be thoughtful, sensitive to public opinion, and mindful of the wider environmental and visual impacts”***.

The Rt Hon Eric Pickles MP, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government has also expressed concern that in regard to, ***“wind turbines and solar farms insufficient weight is being given to local environmental considerations like landscape, heritage and local amenity”***, and ***“the views of local communities should be listened to”***

Tendring District planning policies seek to protect and enhance the distinctive local character of our landscapes and such preservation was also the expressed wish of Great Holland residents as recorded in the Parish Plan & Village Design Statement, a copy of which was distributed to every household.

You are urged to lodge your objection to this proposal with Tendring District Council and to that end a letter is included with this magazine for your use. Simply add your address, sign and date it and

post or deliver to the TDC office in Weeley. If you can, a letter of your own is preferable but the "standard" letter is better than no letter at all.

The application can be viewed by following the planning portal link on the TDC website. Simply put the application number, 13/01292/FUL, into the search pane. It is also possible to lodge your objections on line. You can also visit the TDC Weeley office and view the application.

If you would like more information or guidance please ring 814790.

POLICE SURGERY DATES

**Come and meet your Local
Police Community Support Officer
at Parker's Nursery, Frinton Road, Kirby Cross**

**The next meeting will take place on
Saturday, 7 December
10.00 – 11.00 am**

NEWS

I am unable to include all incidents that have been reported due to their sensitive nature....

- 1 x Abandoned vehicle**
- 3 x Reports of horses on the loose**
- 6 x Road traffic accidents**
- 1 x Attention to**
- 1 x Driving complaint**
- 1 x Theft from vehicle (tools stolen)**
- 1 x Arson (van set alight)**
- 1 x Obstruction**

Please contact us if you have any information relating to the theft or arson incidents.

Also, please remember to secure your property front and back. With Christmas nearly upon us do not leave presents, etc. on show. Not only are you doing your Christmas shopping, but so are thieves. Don't give them easy pickings.

Everyone at Walton Police Station would like to wish all the residents of Gt. Holland a Very Happy Christmas and here's to another reasonably crime free year.

Take Care

PCSO 70843 Paul Brassey
PCSO 6477 Michele Diss
Community Phone No. 07850 631017

paul.brassey@essex.pnn.police.uk
michele.diss@essex.pnn.police.uk

Great Holland Pits Nature Reserve:

Trees: Old and new



Recently severe storms ripped through the parish and left a considerable mark in Holland Pits, bringing down several trees and wrenching the limbs from others. As part of an annual assessment we check trees near each path and any we suspect may present risk are marked with a small numbered disc, and those of the highest risk are felled. Ironically none of the trees with discs were affected.

Trees have a natural life span. Birches have an expected lifespan comparable to humans. Some trees especially if managed as pollards, that is regularly lopped in a traditional manner, can live for up to a millennium. We have one healthy oak which may be around 200.

However not all trees reach their expected life span. When small trees become shaded by bigger ones they tend to be weak. The storms of 1987 notably removed the two weaker oaks out of a cluster of three, and after a season's growth the storm's chaos was difficult to see.

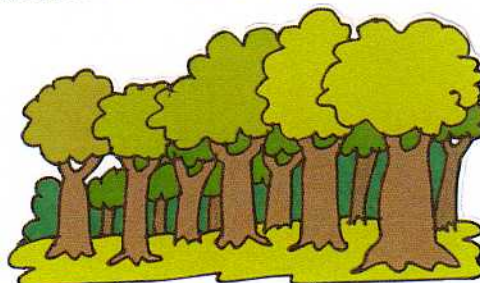
Dead trees have always been a feature of the landscape. They figure commonly in the paintings of John Constable, though it is likely that such a resource would have speedily been removed for firewood. In the 1970's the deadly Dutch Elm disease fundamentally changed the appearance of the countryside around Great Holland. Elm trees tend to reproduce from suckers, so whole stands of trees around the country were effectively clones, like identical twins. They had no resistance to the disease fungus, which spread along the interconnected roots, so nearly all died, including a line of about eighty, which marked the spine of the pits. Nowadays new suckers still emerge, grow with promise until they succumb again after about twelve years.

Now among several new tree diseases brought in to the country with foreign timber products, is the lethal Ash Dieback Disease, or Chalara. Ash has never been a common tree at Great Holland, but a considerable number were planted in Holland Mill Wood behind the original reserve. This year the signs of the disease are obvious in a small proportion of the trees, the growing tips withering and the branching points have taken on a damp stained look. It is likely that the great majority of ash trees here will die as they have in much of Denmark and other parts of Europe. This is a particular shame because Ash casts very light shade and thus encourages woodland flowers and shrubs.

There is hope that a proportion of ash trees will have resistance to the disease, unlike the elms, as they seed prolifically, have more genetic diversity and their offspring will fill in the gaps.


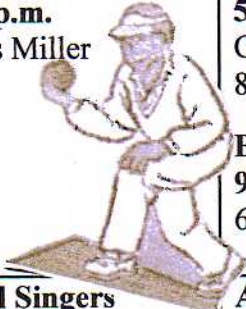

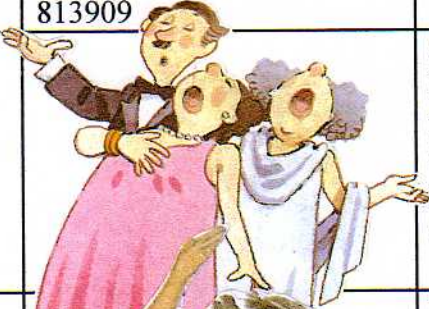


In the Holland Mill plantation we have already seen a natural cull of two of the original species. The Wild Cherry, and the Alder were the two species that got away quickest, growing to seed bearing maturity in about five years. However they started to look stressed, the Alders having weak leaf but proliferating in the number of seed bearing cones, and the cherries dying back. Where these originals died the alders germinated very thickly and formed dense thickets while some of the cherries spread their branches into the spaces left by their neighbours. The result is that the strictly marked grid in which the plantation was laid out has taken on a more natural look, and the age structure of the site is more diverse and robust. In winter much of our life goes into dormancy but we know that the daylight hours start to lengthen at Christmas and new life and vibrancy will follow in the new season.

Bob Seago - Warden



WHAT'S ON IN YOUR VILLAGE HALL?



Day	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Sunday			
Monday		Tendring Male Voice Choir 3.00 – 4.30 p.m. Contact: Ilze 813909 	Cardio Vascular 6.45 – 7.30 p.m. Pilates 7.30 – 8.30 p.m. Contact: Claudine 862505
Tuesday	Gentle Tai Chi with meditation 11.00 a.m. – 12.30 p.m. Contact: Ruth 07724 133702	Carpet Bowls 2.00 – 4.00 p.m. Contact: Les Miller 671214 	Links Karate 5.30 – 7.30 p.m. Contact: Paul Harris 830136 Badminton 9.00 – 10.30 p.m. 671300 
Wednesday		The Coastal Singers (mixed voices) 2.30 – 4.30 p.m. Contact: Ilze 813909	Aerobics 7.00 – 8.00 p.m. Contact: Claudine 862505
Thursday	Tai Chi 9.30 – 12.30 a.m. Contact: Des Exworth 679610 (additional classes are available)		Circuit Training Fitness Class 7.00 – 8.00 p.m. Contact: Paul Hammond 07932 371476
Friday			Links Karate 6.00 – 8.00 p.m. Contact: Paul Harris 830136
Saturday	 Home Made Hour 10.00 – 11.00 a.m. 1 st Saturday in the month (NOT January, February, August or October)		

Rates for hire of Village Hall

All users (regular and casual): £9 per hour. Please contact Coralie Harris on 830136 to book. (Email: coralieh@live.co.uk)

Updated March 2013

Neither the Rector, Church Wardens, Parochial Church Council nor the Editors take responsibility for the information given in, or views expressed in, the "Great Holland Village Voice". Nor is any culpability accepted for work done by advertisers.



VILLAGE HALL GREAT HOLLAND COMMITTEE of MANAGEMENT
ORDINARY COMMITTEE MEETING
GREAT HOLLAND VILLAGE HALL

HELD ON 5th OCTOBER 2013

PRESENT

SUE JENKINS CHAIRPERSON
SHEILA WATTS TREASURER

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Veronica Stack, David Martin

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr. Tim Reynolds Independent Examiner

APOLOGIES

Jim Stuart, Paul Harris, Coralie Harris, Mel Lester

ANY MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MINUTES

There were no matters arising, so the minutes were agreed and signed

CAR PARK

The tree: Members would like to say Thank You to Tony Watts for the work he has done clearing the Ivy from the tree and clearing the dead weeds from around the car park. Also a thank you to Paul Harris for killing off the weeds in the first place. Coralie said that Paul would do one more weed kill this year and probably three during the next year. This should help to keep the car park looking respectable. ALSO, there are some loose branches on the tree higher up than you can reach that NEED to be attended to.

TOILET QUOTES

There were four quotes in. One was far too expensive and one was, we all thought, much too low. The other two were from Keston (local builder) and Brooker. Sue is going to speak to each of them to clarify a few items on the quotes. This will be done asap and an e-mail will be sent to members, needing a **prompt reply**.

FUND RAISING

It has been suggested that a *Beetle Drive* might be arranged again, but for a Saturday afternoon, as every one enjoyed the last one. Date and time to be arranged.

DONATION

We would like to say a big thank you to the Stroke Association for the crockery we had from them. It was suggested, and agreed, that a £50.00 donation will be sent to them very shortly.

THE CONSTITUTION

From reading the Constitution, the rules state that Representatives from all the clubs should be invited to be on the Committee. This is to be done by writing to them and they are to be asked to say whether or not they wish to be. Sue will ask Jim to deal with this and Sheila will ask the PCC at their next meeting.

HALL ROOF

It has been noticed that there are two tiles missing off the roof. Sue is sorting this out with a roofer, and it will be put right shortly.

FUND RAISING

Ruth from Mediation and Gentle Tai Chi has said that she and her group would be more than happy to do a fund raising event for us. We just need to speak to her to find out what sort of thing she does.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer reported a balance of £15514.00.37, £5129.64 of which is in a Bond, the rest is in instant access accounts.

GAS AND ELECTRICITY

On the surface it looks as though we are beginning to see a result on the costs from having the new boiler system.

NEXT MEETING HAS BEEN SET FOR: FEBRUARY 15th 2014 @ 10.00am



FROM THE ARCHIVES

A CHRISTMAS STORY – ‘CAROLS FOR FORTY’

A short seasonal story from “A Village School” by Miss Read:



I shall take you myself for signing this afternoon children as Miss Twigg is at home with a sore throat.

Can I go and open the piano? Can I give out the carol books? Can we sing the new carol Miss Twigg is learning us?

I don't want bedlam either here or in the hall. I am looking for two conscientious and light-footed children who can lead this class at a rational pace from here to the hall door. John, we'll see if you can take responsibility today. And Anna.

Miss Twigg always lets someone go first and open the piano. Are we going to have carols?

Breathing exercises first, dear. All breathe in! Hold it! Out! *Much too much* noise on the 'Out'! – Miss Twigg says that's old-fashioned. She lets us do paper bags. We blow and blow at pretend bags, and then we *do* them, with a bang. Very well. Blow! And again! Bigger still! Now pop! *One pop*, children, is more than sufficient. Miss Twigg's nerves must be in better shape than mine, I can see. All on the floor, sit. There is no need, Michael, to roll about all over everyone else.

Can we have carols now? Miss Twigg always lets us boys give out the books.

All hush! What is this squeaking that is going on? – It's our crepe soles, Miss, Sideways on, Miss, to the floor, Miss. – Then sit still. I shall give the books out from here. Pass them along to the end, child. Brian, don't hold us all up by peering inside each book. We seem to be six books short. Some of you must share. And that doesn't mean a wrenching match, John. You will be left with the nether half of that book if that's the way you handle it. We'll start with 'Good King Wenceslas' if it's in C. All listen quietly.

Miss Twigg doesn't play like that. She always uses two hands.

That will do. Off you go, and anyone scooping 'Fu-oo-el' like a siren stands by me. Stop a minute. Is someone singing bass? – It's Eric, Miss. He always honks like that. Well, Eric dear, it isn't that you aren't *trying*, but your voice is rather strong, so sing rather more softly, will you?

Do let's have our new carol, Miss. Number ten. – One of those mid-European ones, I see; and unfortunately in five flats. I think it might be better to practise that a little longer with Miss Twigg.

Miss, there's someone hollering outside. – It's Miss Judd, Miss. – Open the door for her then. Perhaps Miss Judd would like to hear us sing a carol? There is just time for one more.

Please can it be our new one? – Would you like to hear it, Miss Judd? I think it would sound better unaccompanied. When I can see faces and not backs of heads, John, and Michael has stopped that silly giggling, and Brian has pulled his carol book down from the front of his jersey, and Richard has quite finished looking at his tongue – I will give you the note.

That was lovely. While you were signing Miss Judd gave me some good news for you. Miss Twigg is much better and will take your next singing lesson. Isn't that wonderful? For all of us.

Carol Singing Pepper Cake

These spicy cakes were traditionally given to carol singers at Christmas. Cakes such as these were known as 'pepper cakes' not because they contained pepper, but because the spices were imported from the East where lands were known collectively as the 'pepper countries'.

1½ lbs flour	½ teaspoon ground cinnamon	4 eggs, beaten
1½ lbs black treacle	8 oz dark soft brown sugar	4 tablespoons milk
1 teaspoon ground cloves	1 teaspoon bicarbonate of soda	
½ teaspoon ground ginger	8 oz butter	

Set oven to 325 F or Mark 3

Rub the butter into the flour in a mixing bowl until the mixture resembles fine breadcrumbs, then add the sugar and spices. Put the treacle in a small pan and heat gently until melted, but not hot or the eggs will curdle. Mix into the dry ingredients with the beaten eggs. Mix the bicarbonate of soda with the milk until dissolved and stir into the mixture, beating well. Put the mixture into a greased and lined roasting tin, about 10 inches x 14 inches, spread out evenly and bake for 1¾ hours. Cool in the tin for 15 minutes then turn out onto a wire rack to cool. Cut into slices when serving. Store in an airtight tin for a few days before eating to allow the flavour to develop.

IT'S DELICIOUS!



HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL

Liz Bruce, Local History Recorder
November 2013

TFL LADIES MEETINGS

We welcome **everyone** to this group that usually meets on the **first** Monday of each month, although this can vary due to Bank Holidays, at the Methodist Church Hall, Frinton (corner of Ashlyn's Road/Fourth Avenue). **Meetings start at 2.30pm.**

A payment of £2.00 is required at each meeting to cover the cost of the room hire. We have a speaker who talks for about 30 minutes and then tea and homemade cakes are served. There is also a raffle.

OUR NEXT MEETINGS IN THE CHURCH HALL WILL BE:

★ **Monday 2nd December: Christmas Social Afternoon** ★

Monday 6th January: Terry Allen will speak about his life and what took him into politics.

For more details please contact Fiona Robertson:
01255 679006 or e-mail fiona348@btinternet.com



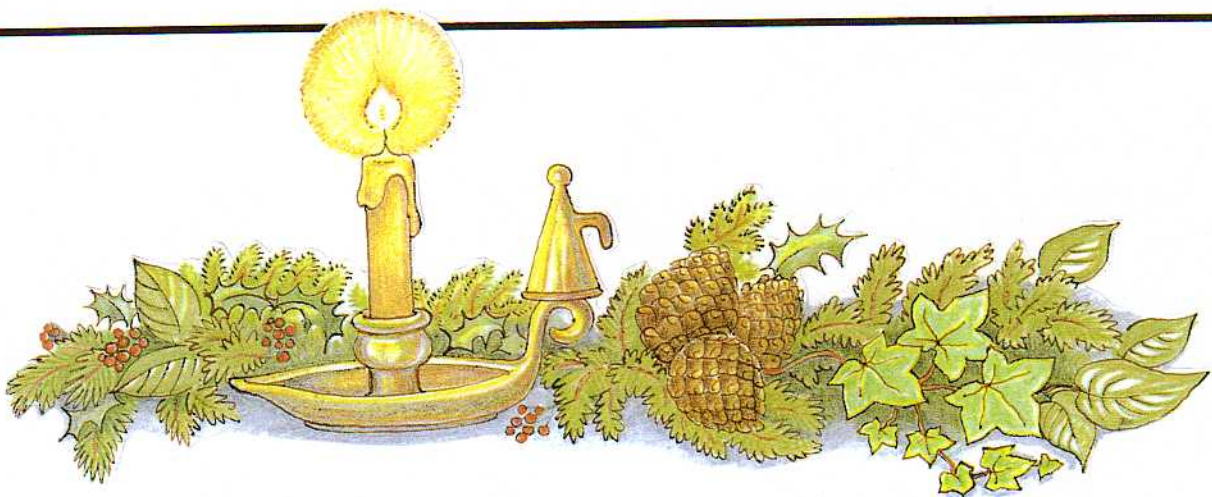
Frinton & Walton Postcard Club



Tuesday 10th December
Christmas Party

St Cedd's Hall, Old Road, Frinton
7.30pm

Please telephone Margaret Wilsher on 674134 for more details



LOCAL NEWS

VILLAGE STORES

The refurbished living accommodation to the rear and above the shop will be finished by the time the magazine is out. Danny Smith, our builder, has done an excellent job from a blank canvas, creating a two bed, very cosy flat/apartment. Anyone wishing to have a look is more than welcome. At the moment you can access through the shop, but in the end that will be blanked off leaving the shop and living area completely separate. Access to the flat will be down a path to the left-hand side of the building. We will be looking for tenants for the flat in a week or two.

As to the shop/PO, I am told by the owner's agent that negotiations are well advanced with a new tenant. If successful it will become I think more of a 7/11-type shop, a bit like the One Stop in Kirby, but with a PO. I suppose we have to move with the times. If I was retiring it would be an ideal little business. Both Mac and I would enjoy serving the village and living in the flat. Maybe one day, you never know.

At the moment the shop is bare, sound but again a blank canvas. The PO have surveyed it and know where the PO counter/equipment etc. will go. We will then need for the new tenant to tell us what they require and the work will be carried out. So to my utmost displeasure we are not looking at an opening before the New Year, or even later. It has not been easy to find a tenant.

(Information provided by Roger Frere, Frinton Farm Partners)

VILLAGE CHRISTMAS TREE

Cllr. Chris Keston has advised that arrangements are well in hand and the tree will be positioned outside the village stores. Thanks go to Silvertons for donating the tree, Jack Robertson Engineering for providing a stand and Frinton & Walton Town Council for a grant to cover the lighting.

There will be Community carol singing round the tree at 6 p.m. on Thursday, 19th December.

FROM CLLR. ROBERT BUCKE

Mrs Myrna Liles of Great Holland has been appointed as the new Town Clerk, Frinton & Walton Town Council, and will be taking up her duties from early December.

PROW footpath No.4 is causing concern alongside the entrance to the old Great Holland Nurseries site in Church Lane, which has recently been sold. Works are nearing completion to re-establish a former vehicle entry to the site, and I have asked Essex County Council to validate the works and the retention of PROW No.4

JUBILEE BENCHES

The following photos show the Jubilee benches finally in position outside All Saints in Church Lane. Seated and standing around the benches are the Town Mayor, Iris Johnson, Councillors Brian Johnson and Robert Bucke, and some members of the Committee responsible for organising the Jubilee event in 2012.



GREAT HOLLAND GARRISON

Alan Birch, who lives near High Wycombe, recently contacted Village Voice regarding a find that he made several years ago at a car boot sale in Bracknell. For just 50p, he had bought some negatives in an old wallet marked 'Great Holland Garrison'.

Having managed to obtain prints from most of the negatives, Alan and his wife visited Great Holland in 2003, and found the locations shown in most of the photos. They also met Simon Wallis, and gave him copies of the prints. As many villagers will know, Simon had a large collection of documentation regarding the history of our village and wrote a booklet about it. He also edited the Parish Magazine until he moved from the village in 2005 to take up a post in Gloucestershire.

With the imminent centenary of the start of the First World War, Alan thought we might be interested in seeing the photos. Three of them are reproduced here, using Alan's titles. Alan believes that the regiment shown might be the Durham Light Infantry, but is carrying out more research in that respect.

The full collection of photos - forty in total - will shortly be added to the Great Holland website at: www.greatholland.com

Alan would love to hear from anyone in the village who has information regarding either the camp or any of the individuals shown in the photos. If you can help, please contact Alan by telephone on 07882 351470 or by e-mail at: alanbirchuk@yahoo.co.uk

Coincidentally, Alan's local village magazine is also called Village Voice!



Church Tower



Ladies



Paddling 2



Essex County Council

General Enquiries 0845 743 0430

Contact Essex

Telephone Enquiries
8am - 8pm Monday - Friday
9am - 12 noon Saturday

Minicom  0845 758 5592
contactessex@essexcc.gov.uk

Children and Young People

Call for information on children and young people's social care, education, special needs, early years, youth service and Connexions.
0845 603 7627

Adult Social Care

Call for services for carers and older people, people with physical disabilities, learning disabilities, impaired sight or hearing, mental health or substance misuse difficulties.
0845 603 7630

Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults

Call when you have an immediate concern that a child or vulnerable adult is suffering abuse or harm that needs urgent attention.
0845 603 7634
Out of hours call 0845 606 1212

Libraries Enquiry Service

Call for general information and libraries enquiries. (Open 8am - 8pm Monday to Friday, 8.30am - 5pm Saturday, and 10am - 4.30pm Sunday.)
0845 603 7628

Registration

Enquiries about birth, marriage and death, registration, citizenship and other civil ceremonies. 0845 603 7632

Trading Standards/ Consumer Direct

Consumer advice - call for advice in relation to problems with goods or services or unfair business activities.
0845 404 0506

Trading Standards

Business and Trading Standards general enquiries - call for Essex business advice on trading standards law, unfair/unsafe trading practices, licence or registration and weights and measures verifications.
0845 603 7626

Waste, Disposal and Recycling

Call for opening times, advice and locations of Recycling Centres for Household Waste (7 days a week).
0845 603 7625

Environment

Call for information on major development projects, mineral, waste and County Council planning applications, country parks, and gypsy and traveller services.
0845 603 7624

For domestic and commercial planning matters contact your District/ Borough Council.

Highways

Highways general enquiries.
0845 603 7631
For licence requests, 24 hour fault reporting on street lighting, roads, footways, and public rights of way call your local area office.

Tendring and Colchester
0845 603 7620

Uttlesford, Harlow, Epping Forest and Brentwood
0845 603 7621

Braintree, Chelmsford and Maldon
0845 603 7622

Basildon, Rochford and Castle Point
0845 603 7623

Traffic Control Centre

Call for live traffic information (7am - 7pm Mon to Fri).
0845 6000 110

Traveline

Call for Essex and national public transport and timetable information (including train, tram, coach, underground, metro, and local ferry information) (7am - 10pm 7 days a week).
0870 608 2608

essexmatters can be made available in alternative formats: large print, braille, audio tape or disk. It can also be translated into other languages.

Calls on 0845 numbers are charged at no more than 4p per minute from a BT landline.

Call charges from other landline providers or mobile phones may vary. Please check the rate with your phone provider.