

East Rudham Village News



Autumn 2025

Members of East Rudham Parish Council

Malcolm Pearson MBE (Chairman) 01485 529 086

Tony Elburn (Vice Chairman) 01485 528 273

John Dawson 01485 528 356

Rosemary Weeks 01485 576 138

Susan Jones 01485 528 243

Trevor Davis 07913 343 292

Mark Tizard 07818 757 676

Richard Spencer 07703 483 220

Terry Hibbert 01485 528 894

Caroline Boyden(Clerk) 07368 861 696

clerk@eastrudhamparishcouncil.gov.uk

<https://eastrudhampc.parishcouncil.gov.uk>

Parish Council Meetings

Meetings of East Rudham Parish Council are held at the Rudhams' Village Hall and start at 7.15pm.

We welcome members of the public at our Parish meetings.

Dates of our forthcoming meetings are as follows:-

Tuesday September 2nd

Tuesday October 7th

Tuesday November 4th

These dates may be subject to change, please refer to our website for updates.

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

The improvements at the Cemetery continue with thanks to all who have contributed. A number of appreciative messages have been received.

We are currently waiting for a date from Highways for the new kerbing on the North side of the Green . Hopefully this will be taking place this summer.

Local Government Reorganisation continues with the County Council favouring just 1 unitary authority but the other 6 district/borough councils including King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council would like 3 unitary authorities. The Borough Council's Corporate action plan is outlined on pages 21 and 22 of this newsletter.

Devolution, the Government have confirmed that mayoral authorities will be set up with mayoral elections taking place next May. They would elect a mayor for both Norfolk and Suffolk. A separate page on our website <https://eastrudhamparishcouncil.gov.uk/information/devolution-2025/> is regularly updated with the latest information.

Our speed monitor located by Groveside (Westbound) shows a maximum speed of 100mph on the 22nd of June, with an average speed of 37.3 mph and a total of 135,217 vehicles.

Following the success of last years event highlighting historic dates and residents of East Rudham as well as showing everyday life in the village over the decades we are looking to run an event during Friday 19th September and Saturday 20th September with some new items and displays at East Rudham Church with refreshments available.

There will also be items found locally on display again and people are invited to bring in anything they have found locally.

Please look out for further information in September on our website.

Request For Information and Support to Enable us to Apply for Funding for the Purchase of a Raiser 2 Inflatable Chair.

Our recent application for a grant was rejected on the basis we had not demonstrated local support and need adequately. As a result we are appealing for support from parishioners to enable us to reapply.

East Rudham Parish Council is seeking to apply for grants to support the purchase of a Raiser 2 inflatable Chair. The chair will be kept in cabinet on an external wall at the Rudhams Village Hall and will be made available to parishioners of East Rudham and surrounding Parish Councils

We intend to apply for grants totalling around £5000 to fund the purchase of the chair and its maintenance. As part of the application, we need to prove there is a need locally and that the provision of the chair would be widely supported. We are aware of the Norfolk wide Swift service but local evidence is that they are often unable to respond in a timely manner and the caller is told to call an ambulance. We would stress that this chair is for those that have had a fall but are otherwise uninjured. Part of the user induction includes a traffic light series of questions and unless all answers are green an ambulance should be called.

We are seeking any anecdotal evidence of the challenges of accessing assistance in trying to assist a resident who has suffered a fall.

We are also seeking emails or letters of support from Parishioners who support this provision

Approximately 40% of the residents of Rudham and the surrounding villages are over 60 as per the last census. We believe this chair will be a useful addition to the community and complement the defibrillator we already have.

We would be grateful if you could let the Parish Council have a letter or email of support which we could include in our application. If you need any further clarification please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mark Tizard

East Rudham Parish Councillor

tizards@btinternet.com

07818 757676

Further details of the Raiser 2 chair

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TteUdJVtOF0>



THE MUGA REPORT

We had a very good afternoon of sport at our 'Family Open Day' in July. There were plenty of games and races to challenge everyone and the children put in a great effort to beat their own scores and do their very best...well done to you all. The famous 'Black Cat' goalkeeper put in an appearance and he also did his best to stop penalties at the football shoot out. Predictably, he was beaten however by quite a few 9 year-olds! We ended the afternoon on a staggered marathon race around the perimeter of the field which was very well contested. The weather was good, there was lots of cheering and even a presentation of medals at the end of a busy afternoon. Thanks go in particular to the MUGA volunteers and of course, everyone who came along.

The court has also been deep-cleaned and although it is getting on in age it is still in remarkably good condition. It is likely that we will be looking to replace the carpet in the next few years so any help to fund this very expensive outlay would be very much appreciated

If you would like to use the MUGA anytime during the year it is extremely cheap to become a member: £10 for. single membership and £20 only for families. Clubs are able to join for £30 per quarter. This is a real bargain, especially when you compare it with other places and their charges.

Please contact Dawn Collins on dawncollins75@gmail.com for further details. Membership can be paid by bank transfer to: The Rudhams MUGA Management Committee, sort code 20-30-81, Account number: 30005096 Reference: Your surname

DEFIBRILLATOR ACTIVATION

STEPS TO TAKE IN BRIEF

1/ Call 999, ask for ambulance - BT operators do not know the location of defibrillators.

2/ Answer any questions they ask you e.g. Is the patient breathing? Is the patient conscious?

3/ Start CPR. Compressions only.

4/ Fetch defibrillator if asked to do so. Locked cabinet code will be given by ambulance control.

5/ Return defibrillator to cabinet after rescue. Data needs to be downloaded and defibrillator recommissioned. Inform Parish Council as any used pads will need replacing.

If necessary The Crown in East Rudham has the access code.

MOBILE POST OFFICE OPENING HOURS

Monday	9.20am - 10.20am
Tuesday	9.20am-10.20am
Wednesday	15.40pm -16.20pm
Thursday	9.20am-10.20am
Friday	11.00am - 12.00am

The mobile Post Office is parked in the car park next to the Village Green.

Can we please ask that people do not park anything on the hatched area on the South of the Green, this is reserved for the mobile Post Office which is a vital service to many in the village. If the vehicle cannot park safely it will not stop in the village and the service may be lost.

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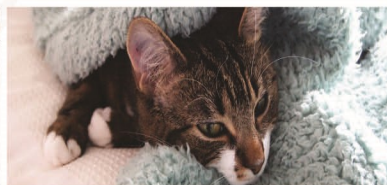
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WEST LYNN FERRY BACK IN ACTION

Since at least 1265 come rain, shine, tide and storm, a ferry has carried passengers across Lynn's river. The ferry service was vital to save a twelve-mile walk over the nearest river bridge at Wiggenhall Saint German's. In 1392, the powerful merchants of the Trinity Guild acquired the right to run the ferries. It was a profitable acquisition for the guild and essential for trade and commerce. The ferrymen would pay a very substantial fee of several hundred pounds to the Guild for the privilege of operating a ferry. Three ferry boats plied across the river with pilgrims, farmers, livestock and servants coming to Lynn markets with one ferry plying from the Purfleet, one from the Common Staithe (hence Ferry Street), but the oldest ferry was, and is, that of Ferry Lane which is a continuation of an ancient route via Norfolk Street to Norwich. After the Reformation of Henry VIII which destroyed so many religious institutions, the Trinity Guild ceased to be and consequently lost the privilege of the ferry rights. The Mayor and Corporation eagerly took over as the ferry owners and now the franchise is let by the Council to intrepid people who operate a commuter service from West Lynn.

West Lynn Ferry sets sail once again.

The ferry that has crossed the River Great Ouse since 1285 resumed its service on the morning of the 11th August following essential repairs that halted its operation in January.

Cllr Andy Bullen, Mayor of King's Lynn & West Norfolk, officially reopened the service and was one of its first passengers on its maiden voyage at 7am also Revd Canon Adrian Ling, Rector of South and West Lynn, blessed the ferry before its first crossing of the river.

Ben Ellis, Skipper and co-owner of the ferry, expressed his excitement: "The ferry's back and it's stronger than ever. To all those who said they'd use it, I hope to see you soon."

The ferry service was suspended earlier this year due to safety concerns. Joint funding of nearly £100,000 from Norfolk County Council and the Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk has seen improvements including reinstated handrails and safety barriers on both ferry landings, structural repairs to steps and surfaces. The ferry operator has also carried out some additional maintenance.



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Borough Council to take next step towards new health, swim, fitness and community facilities promoting active lifestyles and wellbeing

The Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk is moving to the next stage in shaping options to build new sustainable health.

St James Swimming Pool, opened in 1975, and Oasis Leisure Centre, dating to 1984, are coming to the end of their economic lives and are increasingly expensive to run. Both have high energy costs and carbon emissions due to age and inefficient design.

They would need significant investment to keep them running in the coming years. In addition, Lynnsport is now 34 years old and requires significant capital investment to modernise its facilities.

Over recent months, the council has completed initial feasibility work exploring opportunities for investing in and improving leisure facilities, as part of boosting local health and wellbeing. After careful consideration, Full Council on 31st July agreed to the further design, survey and financial work needed to produce a business case for a major upgrade of Lynnsport, incorporating a brand new swimming pool to replace St James.

The next stage of project development, which will also include engagement with key stakeholders and the wider community, will help councillors make an informed decision on whether to proceed with this significant investment

Councillor Simon Ring, Deputy Council Leader and Cabinet Member for Business, said: "It is vital we provide opportunities for all our residents to access affordable, truly modern and sustainable facilities. Our current centres are reaching the end of their lives and that means we need to invest to offer new, fit-for-purpose, health, swim and fitness facilities for our communities, which will help more residents to lead healthy, active lifestyles. New facilities will also be considerably cheaper to run and maintain.

A new pool at Lynnsport, to replace St James, was identified as the most viable option in a study looking at various sites in King's Lynn. This also found there were no suitable alternative sites in the town centre. With a major upgrade to Lynnsport, we have the exciting opportunity for a very modern sports and fitness hub for King's Lynn.

At Hunstanton, the planned rebuild of the Oasis remains very much on the table and will be considered as part of a comprehensive Hunstanton Masterplan, due to progress to Cabinet in 2026, to ensure the Oasis becomes an integral part of, and complements, a wider more ambitious plan to revitalise the town. This plan will also take into consideration the essential repairs needed to the promenade and sea defences. In the meantime, the council will continue with the planned maintenance programme at the Oasis."

BOOST CONSTRUCTION MASTERCLASS

A successful programme inspiring local young people to pursue careers in construction took place over two weeks at the start of July.

A dynamic Construction Masterclass, organised by Boost West Norfolk, brought together young people aged 16-30 from the area and provided them with vital skills and insights to kick-start careers in the construction industry.

The masterclass aimed to inspire those not currently in education, employment, or training. Participants engaged in comprehensive sessions covering construction site safety, giving them valuable knowledge on how to work securely within a construction environment. The programme also included a First Aid course, equipping attendees with essential lifesaving skills such as CPR and defibrillator use: capabilities that can make a critical difference in emergencies.

Jo McKenzie-English, Skills Partnership Manager at Norfolk County Council, expressed her enthusiasm about the initiative: "This was the first time we have tried a multi-angle approach to our programme.

"Eleven young people took part in the construction masterclass, attending sessions that were needed or relevant. All elements were important to help participants gain a better understanding of the construction industry, but the key element was to help participants gain their CSCS card - widely recognised proof of competence for construction workers in the UK."

We are aiming to continue to work this way in the coming months and we are aiming to cover lots of different sectors including Animal Care, Business Administration, Hair and Beauty to name a few!"

The programme featured talks from local employers, providing participants with an inside perspective on career prospects within the region's thriving construction sector. A notable highlight was a guided visit to the Borough Council's Florence Fields development site, where Lovell showcased the full build process—from initial groundworks to finished development—giving young people invaluable firsthand insight into modern construction practices and the opportunity to engage directly with industry professionals.

The week culminated at the Conservatorium in Bircham Newton, where participants translated their theoretical knowledge into practical experience. This hands-on session allowed young people to see how design concepts are transformed into reality, deepening their understanding of the construction process.

This initiative is part of Boost West Norfolk's ongoing commitment to supporting young people into meaningful careers and providing accessible opportunities for skills development. The programme exemplifies the partnership's dedication to nurturing local talent and strengthening its future workforce.

Course Highlights:

Employability session facilitated by Pilot, Emergency First Aid training facilitated by Norvic Training, Construction industry career talk by Mace, Site visit to Lovell's housing development project at Florence Fields, Visit to Transport for London's Constructionarium site, CSCS site safety training day - 10 attendees, all passed and are awaiting second test Find out more and see what other projects are taking place - [Boost | Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk](#)

ST GEORGE'S GUILDHALL

The Borough Council is forging ahead with its internationally-significant cultural heritage project to breathe new life into St George's Guildhall, the UK's oldest working theatre

St George's, in King's Lynn, is set to be sensitively preserved and enhanced as a local, regional and international centre for arts, creativity and theatre for everyone to enjoy, as the flagship scheme of the King's Lynn Town Deal regeneration programme.

The transformational Guildhall and Creative Hub project will see the medieval venue, empty buildings and courtyards revived as inspiring, welcoming spaces, creating a heritage destination, new food and drink offer, home for creative industries and year-round programme of performances, events and education programmes.

This internationally-significant cultural heritage project will add an estimated £30.8m to the local economy and create 117 jobs over the first 15 years, by promoting King's Lynn's heritage and tantalising links to Shakespeare, supporting new and existing creative businesses, while remaining a facility for the whole community to enjoy.

Over the last year, project scope and ambition have expanded to include safety and accessibility improvements in King Street (subject to planning permission), a multi-million-pound investment in environmental resilience and sustainability, more public space and office space, and an extra outdoor performance area.

After months of detailed project development work and extensive debate, Full Council on Thursday 17 July voted to give final approval to proceed. Councillors have agreed to earmark the funding required to allow main works to start this autumn, with the site reopening in 2028.

Councillors also asked officers to continue exploring significant external investment opportunities, both nationally and internationally, to add to £10.1m in total from the Government's Town Deal. This is on top of funding from the Norfolk and Norwich Festival and from the Government's Shared Prosperity Fund for the learning and engagement programme, involving visitors and local young people in the building through special events, exhibitions and tours.

The meeting heard that major fundraising efforts are paying off, with a welcome grant recently confirmed towards the roof restoration work by an external funder, which will announce the details in due course. Positive discussions continue around other opportunities.



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EMERGENCY PLAN

Recently some parishioners came together to help clear a tree that had fallen across the A148 in the village. Together they organised chain saws and vehicles and cleared the tree before Highways were able to attend. This led to a discussion at the recent Parish Council meeting as to whether we should have a register of assets/capabilities as a basis of an emergency plan.

To this end we would like to assess interest in compiling an emergency register listing residents who have any of the following.

First Aid Training

4 x 4 vehicle

Chain Saw or other heavy equipment

In addition, we would like to hear from anyone who would be happy to volunteer in a wider context on a call out basis

In the first instance please drop a brief email to Caroline Boyden Parish Clerk at parishclerk@easttrudhamparishcouncil.gov.uk



RUDHAM CHIMNEY SWEEP

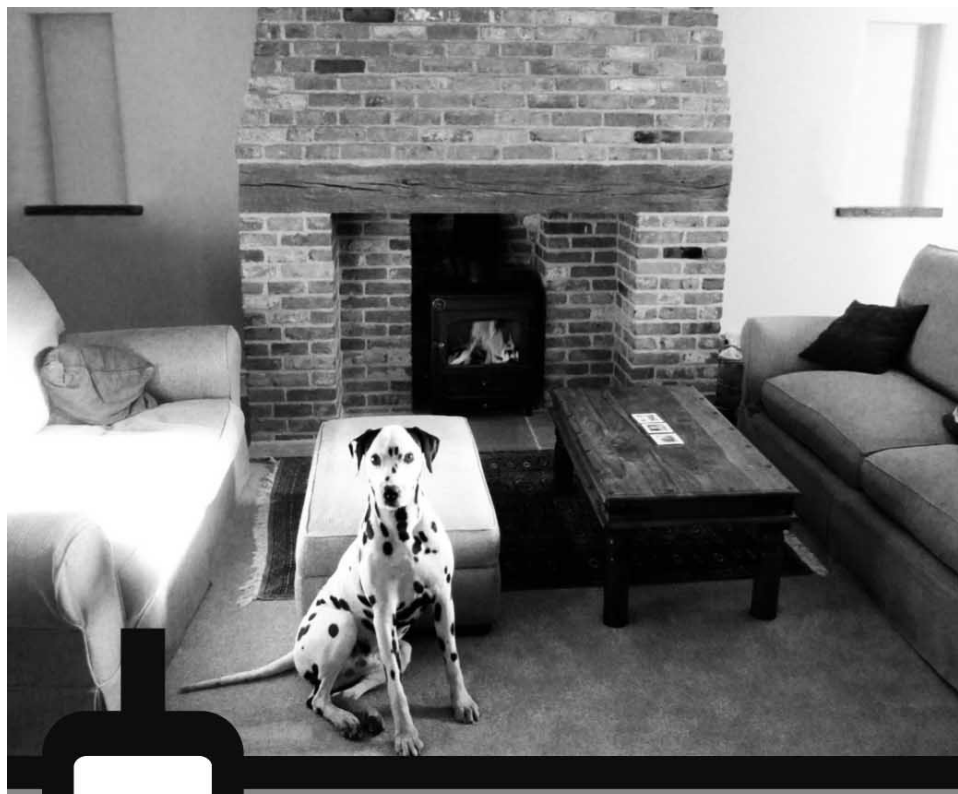
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Monday	10.00-11.00	Short Tennis	Maggie Pattison	01485 528842 magpattison@btinternet.com
	19.00-21.00	Dog Training	Lisa Pearson	07985 473821 hemptonogtraininggroup@gmail.com
Tuesday	9.30-11.30	Badminton	Anna Feistner	01485 528486
	17.30-19.00 Term time	Brownies	Lisa Palmer	07774 542325
	19.15-21.30 1st Tues monthly	E. Rudham PC	Caroline Boyden	07368 861696 clerk@eastrudhamparishcouncil.gov.uk
Wednesday	9.00	Walkfit	Jaime Parry	07765 433100
	9.50	Stability Ball		
	18.00-18.40	Fitsteps fitness	Jaime Parry	07765 433100
	18.45	Fitness Pilates		
Thursday		Norfolk Sew Together	Jane Conway	07768444578 janeelizabethconway@icloud.com
	19.30-21.30 Last Thurs. bi-monthly	W. Rudham PC	Caroline Boyden	07368 861696 clerk@westrudhamparishcouncil.gov.uk
Friday	8.45-9.30	Lift Lean	Jaime Parry	07765 433100
	10.00-13.00	Rudham Art Group (RAGS)	Maggie Pattison	01485 528842 magpattison@btinternet.com

To hire this hall

for one-off functions, regular clubs and meetings

contact **Amanda Farrow**

email: bookingsrudhamvillagehall@outlook.com

Good news from The Rudhams and District Village Hall

Our stalwart Grants sub-committee continue to seek funding for a list of improvements and maintenance that grows longer the more we think about it!

A grant of £3,545 has been received in advance from Jacks Lane Wind Farm, which is funding for cleaning and sealing the roof to make the tiles last longer and to clear concrete sections and paths.

Also, there has been the wonderful surprise of an anonymous donation of £234, very gratefully received.

Hall signage, outdoor lighting, and refurbishing the curtains are imminent points the trustees are addressing. These follow the major task of replacing all windows and doors, which has futureproofed the hall for many years to come.

Summer Clean-up on Saturday 12th July.

Many thanks to those who came to help. The front car park area benefitted from weeding, strimming and expert pruning of some shrubs. Window sills were washed, curtains vacuumed and cobwebs targeted. A small but energetic group achieved a lot. The next clean-up day is planned for Saturday 8th November, perhaps put it in your diary.

If you know anyone who would like to ‘foster’ a small outdoor area of the hall, to nurture and maintain it, the Trustees would be delighted to hear from you on behalf of the community. This could be the new hedge, planted areas or perhaps some planters creatively displayed outside the fire door.

For general hall matters please email:
rudhamsvillagehall@outlookcom

PLANS TO BE SUBMITTED TO REVITALISE ICONIC CUSTOM HOUSE IN KING'S LYNN

The next step is underway in the exciting £2.5m conservation project to sensitively breathe new life into one of King's Lynn's most loved historic landmarks, for the benefit of residents and visitors.

Last year, the Borough Council engaged with the community and other stakeholders on ambitions to bring the grade I-listed Custom House back into sustainable use as a flexible, accessible space, as a key part of the Town Deal regeneration programme.

Light-touch revitalisation of the Custom House and historic setting is part of a wider vision to maximise the potential of the town's historic riverfront, recognised as a currently-underused asset, and attract more people to the area, while protecting, respecting and preserving its unique heritage.

As a crucial next step, the council will soon submit an application for listed building consent and will look to install a platform lift, an accessible toilet on the ground floor and upgraded and increased toilets on the second floor. These are core works, required to ensure the building is welcoming for all, meets accessibility standards and supports flexible use.

The council is taking a minimum-intervention approach to revitalisation that will retain almost all the historic fabric, including the west elevation window fabric and the north and south elevation doors, and see the whole building carefully cleaned and conserved.

After consulting with stakeholders and local organisations, the council is working towards shaping a preferred option for the building's future use.

The first floor will tell the story of the Custom House from its origins in 1683 and of King's Lynn's historic maritime past. The ground floor will have a small "café-lite" plus a room for local art exhibitions. Occasional public/private events could be hosted in the evenings and on closed days.

Led by the borough council in partnership with the King's Lynn Neighbourhood Board, the Town Deal programme will help unlock the full potential of our unique place for local communities, delivering new facilities, opportunities and jobs for residents, supporting the local economy and making more of our rich heritage buildings and spaces for a stronger and sustainable future.

The Custom House project is fully funded from £25m Town Deal grant from the government. Subject to planning consent, the core works are currently programmed to start in the winter and will take around a year to complete.

CORPORATE ACTION PLAN 2025 –2027 AGREED

The Borough Council's plans for delivering its corporate strategy over the next two years were agreed by Cabinet Members on Thursday, 24th July.

Coming at a critical time for the authority, the action plan ensures a continued focus on key priorities for local communities and businesses, while also addressing a number of other demands, such as preparing for devolution and local government reorganisation.

Council leader, Cllr Alistair Beales, said: "We have already accomplished a great deal – for which I would like to commend the hard work of our committed staff team – and our action plan celebrates this.

"But, as always, there is more we want to do. Our 2-year plan for 2025-27 sets out how we intend to continue delivering our vision of creating a welcoming rural district, with vibrant communities and successful, growing businesses.

"Local government in Norfolk is about to undergo fundamental change and until we have a final decision about its future structure there is a lot of uncertainty.

"However, while preparing the Borough Council for whatever the Government's decision may be, it's important we don't lose sight of what we set out to do two years ago when we published our corporate strategy.

"That strategy, which set out our priorities and plans for the borough, remains at the heart of what we are trying to achieve for West Norfolk."

The corporate strategy lasts for the four-year term of the current administration and has four key priorities: to promote growth and prosperity to benefit West Norfolk, to protect its environment, to deliver services efficiently and effectively, and to support the borough's communities.

Work across the council has already resulted in a number of achievements, such as a spending review that resulted in savings of £6million, offering 100% council tax relief to people on the lowest incomes,

assessing 100% of fly-tipping cases within a day of being recorded, awarding nearly 100 grants to support local business and installing 30 EV charging points in council car parks.

The two-year plan agreed by Cabinet builds on previous plans and sets out a series of actions under each priority to show how it will continue to be delivered until the end of the strategy's term.

These include:

- The completion of an investment plan for West Norfolk to prioritise investment in infrastructure and projects that will deliver better employment opportunities, improved transport and connectivity, the right homes to meet local needs and healthier lives.
 - Actions the council is taking in its bid to become Net Zero by 2035 and create opportunities for householders to access environmentally-sustainable home energy supply.
 - How the council will use resources effectively to deliver services, including delivery of savings targets in the council's medium-term financial strategy and aligning spending decisions on the Community Infrastructure Levy to corporate priorities.
 - Improvements to customer service and increased use of partnership working to help improve health outcomes for our communities.
- It also sets out key work in the council's transformation programme, helping to modernise the council and prepare for the forthcoming changes to local government.

Cllr Beales added: "People tell us they want transparency and accountability in the way decisions are made and I agree. Our key projects are in our plan, which is published for anyone to read. If anyone has a question about what we're doing, they can call or email, or better still attend a meeting and ask it in person."

The Corporate Action Plan is published on the council's website at: west-norfolk.gov.uk/actionplan

LOCAL SCAMS

East Rudham Parish Council receive regular information from Norfolk Police about scams and criminals active in our area. To enable this to be passed on to those living in our village, the information has been put on the parish council website. This is updated regularly as new information is received. For more urgent situations, there is a Stop Press section www.eastrudhampc.parishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk

SCAMS PREVENTION SERVICE

Fraud affects thousands of people across Norfolk every year. Most often it is the vulnerable in our society who are targeted and exploited by scammers, but anyone can be a victim.

In partnership with [Norfolk and Suffolk Victim Care](#), Norfolk Constabulary and Norfolk County Council Trading Standards, we have set up the Scams Prevention Service.

The service offers free and confidential specialist support to those who have been targeted by scams and helps to increase awareness of scams in Norfolk. Supported by the agencies which make up the [Norfolk Against Scams Partnership](#), the Scams Prevention Service identifies and assesses the needs of victims, working with them to improve their confidence and safety, and develop a plan to reduce vulnerability to being victimised again.

If you would like support after being the victim of a fraud, then contact the Norfolk Scams Prevention Service on 0300 303 3706. or on nsvictimcare@victimsupport.org.uk.

If you would like support after being the victim of any crime, whether or not you have reported it, then contact Norfolk and Suffolk Victim Care on 0300 303 3706.

DO NOT EVER GIVE OUT IN PERSON, BY PHONE OR ON LINE

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NEVER LET A STRANGER INTO YOUR HOUSE

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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COMMUNITY CAR SCHEME		01485 520 823
DOCKING SURGERY		01485 521 135
FAKENHAM SURGERY		01328 851 321
JAMES WILD MP		James.wild.mp@parliament.uk
LITTER/FLY TIPPING HOTLINE		0800 253 2687
MASSINGHAM SURGERY		01485 520 521
MUGA	Maggie Pattison	01485 528 842
POLICE		101
OIL BUYING SCHEME	Susan Jones	01485 528 243
RUDHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL		01485 528 230
VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS		bookingsrudhamvillagehall@outlook.com

PUBLICISE YOUR SOCIETY OR EVENT

We welcome contributions from villagers, local groups and societies for printing in the East Rudham Parish Newsletter. Please send to ernews@outlook.com by November 10th for inclusion in the Winter edition which is delivered to every household, is published on our website and has a link from our facebook page. Advertisements are very welcome.

Full Page £12/issue Half page £6/issue