

East Rudham Village News



Spring 2026

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

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Mark Tizard 07818 757 676

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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 March 3rd

Tuesday April 7th

Tuesday May 5th

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

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

The speed sign was located at Groveside, during January 2026 and the maximum speed was 85mph on the 22.1.26 at 23.40 hrs.

Total vehicles were 99,975 with an average speed of 28.9 mph in the 30mph limit.

For information, the speed sign in West Rudham has an average speed of 25mph with over 35mph in the summer months of 2025.

The kerbing on the North side of the Green was completed during December 2025 and funding towards this project was received from the Borough Council and our County Councillor, Michael Chenery.

Our next project is to reline the car park markings and look into kerbing where the car park meets the Green.

The Cemetery will require a delivery of gravel in the spring and Village Green remain in good condition. Many thanks to all our volunteers for their invaluable help.

The Government are due to make a decision on the proposed Devolution in March, this is between either one or three unitary authorities. The Borough Council supports three in order to allow more decisions to be made locally.

The website – <https://eastrudhamparishcouncil.gov.uk> is regularly updated and we are now looking to add a historical page. If you have any older pictures or interesting stories, please send to the parish clerk on clerk@eastrudhamparishcouncil.gov.uk

2026 Parish Council Meeting dates are:

3rd March, 7th April, 5th May (Annual Parish and Parish Council Meetings), 2nd June, 7th July, August – NO MEETING, 1st September, 6th October, 3rd November, December – NO MEETING



MUGA REPORT

The Annual MUGA Quiz took place at the village hall on Saturday 24th January. It was a fun evening and we raised £425 towards the maintenance costs for the forthcoming year.

Although it seems quite a time ago, the Christmas Mulled Wine and Mince Pies evening was also very well attended and enjoyed by all. Along with the raffle we took over £300. Together therefore we have raised over £700 from these two main events. Thank you to everyone for your generosity.

Over the last couple of months we have had an on-going problem with the floodlights. This was resolved by our very good electrician friend to the MUGA, Simon Wade, thank you. However, we have now discovered that two of the bulbs are no longer working. The court can still be illuminated fairly well through the remaining two lights but we will have to resolve this issue as soon as we can. It could well be a very expensive fix (with the need to apply for a grant) and so the fundraising events are very important, thank you again for your support.

Please note: MUGA Membership remains at £10 for single membership and families £20, no increase from last year. Clubs are able to join for £40 per quarter. 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

New Era for \Rudham: Ladies Cricket Team Launched

There is a fresh energy heading to the village playing field this February. As women's cricket continues to sweep the nation, Rudham and District Cricket Team is officially joining the movement with the launch of its brand-new Ladies Team.

Whether you are the next superstar batter or someone who hasn't picked up a bat since school, the team is throwing its doors open to women of all ages and skill levels. Our mission is to provide a supportive, inclusive environment where woman and girls can build confidence, and connect to the local community. The initiative aims to blend fitness, local pride, and, most importantly, a bit of mid-week fun.

Breaking New Ground

Due to the weather we have had to change our training to indoors at Fakenham Sports Centre 8-9pm on a Wed evening instead of the Rudhams MUGA on a Tuesday. We hope to be able to use the MUGA soon.

No Gear? No Problem.

For those worried about expensive equipment or "not knowing the rules," the message is simple: Just turn up. The club is providing kit for the initial sessions, and the focus will be on "soft-ball" cricket—a fast-paced, accessible version of the game that swaps the hard leather ball for a more forgiving alternative.

Join the Action The first session is the perfect opportunity to meet your future teammates and see what the buzz is about.

What to wear: Comfortable gym clothes and trainers. ‘

We are looking for enthusiastic cricketers to join our friendly Sunday Team for the upcoming season!

Age 12-112

All abilities welcome

Please contact Amy for Ladies Cricket on 07917718341

Please Contact Tristan for Sunday Cricket on 07973782518.

Keep an eye on our Instagram and Facebook for news and information @Rudahm and District Cricket Club’



The Rudhams and District Village Hall

This lovely airy space has been available since 1993 for use by individuals and groups from the local area.

It was conceived and built with the vision, hard work and ongoing dedication of people from this community.

The hall continues to be maintained and managed by local volunteers.

After the ‘festive’ break, the Trustees met to get the ball rolling again to manage the hall for the year.

Our large new sign for the front of the building is ready to be collected from Mr Signs of King’s Lynn and may even be in place by the time of reading this.

New sensor lighting now lights the car parks much better than before thanks to Simon Wade’s electrical services.

The Grants sub-committee shall be meeting to prioritise applications for this year, which could include a wheelchair ramp for the fire door, new chairs, some extra equipment for the kitchen and development of the rear land.

The next clean-up of the hall surroundings will be on Saturday 14th March 10am – 12.30. All are welcome. These sessions are on the second Saturday of each March, July and November.

If anyone would like to support us with their time to develop ideas or help with painting/maintenance we’d love to hear from you at rudhamsvillagehall@outlook.com or call Nell on 07880 885648.

Please see page 18 for the timetable of regular classes held in the Rudhams and District Village Hall.

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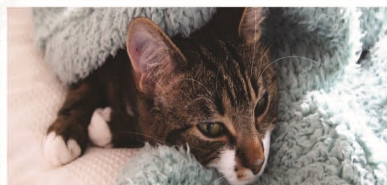
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Emergency Repair Work required on Hunstanton Promenade

The Borough Council is to carry out emergency repairs on a section of Hunstanton Promenade after a sinkhole appeared

A portion of the promenade has been fenced off to ensure public safety until the work is complete.

Cllr Sandra Squire, Cabinet Member for Environment and Coastal, said: “Recent bad weather and coastal flooding have accelerated deterioration in part of the Hunstanton Promenade. While there is currently no impact on local businesses or residents, a section has become unsafe for pedestrians and must be repaired urgently.”

“A geotechnical report received late last year identified the need for substantial repairs along the promenade. Although patching and rejoining have been carried out in recent months, the report made clear that more extensive intervention is required.”

Borough councillors, Hunstanton Town Councillors, promenade traders, and other key stakeholders were briefed on the findings last year. A weight restriction was immediately introduced, and a feasibility study commissioned. Currently, the stretch between the Waterside Bar and the Oasis remains closed for safety reasons.

Cllr Squire added: “These sea defences are nearing the end of their serviceable life. We are now undertaking emergency repairs; public safety remains our top priority. We ask visitors to follow the guidance, avoid fenced-off areas, and stay away of the ongoing works.

“These emergency measures are only a temporary fix. This incident further strengthens our case to national government that Hunstanton’s sea defences—including the promenade deck—require significant investment, and soon.”



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A Full Room and a Shared Commitment to Our Villages

Nearly sixty people gathered for our recent Community Meeting - a remarkable and heartening response. It was a simple evening, shared over pancakes and conversation, yet it became something rather more significant: an expression of care for our villages and for the life of our churches.

On behalf of St Mary's Church, East Rudham and St Peter's Church, West Rudham, I would like to offer sincere thanks to everyone who came along. Those present brought honesty, generosity and a willingness to listen well. Hopes were voiced, concerns shared, ideas offered. There was real encouragement in the room - not because everyone agreed on everything, but because people engaged thoughtfully and respectfully. That spirit in itself is a sign of strength within a community.

The Psalmist writes, "How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity." (Psalm 133:1). There was something of that spirit among us: not uniformity, but unity - a shared desire to seek what is good for our villages and faithful for our churches.

The churches of East and West Rudham have stood for centuries as places of prayer, gathering and belonging. Yet buildings alone do not make a living church; it is people who give them life. Evenings such as this remind us that we are not simply inheritors of the past, but stewards of the future.

We are now carefully collating all that was shared. This will take a little time, as we reflect prayerfully and responsibly before suggesting next steps. In due course we will communicate more widely.

If you were unable to attend but would like to be kept informed, please do get in touch. You can also follow our social media presence at @coxfordchurches, where updates and news are regularly shared.

Thank you again to all who contributed — and, of course, to those who ensured that the pancakes did not go to waste. It was a hopeful evening, and we trust that the seeds sown in conversation will, in time, bear good fruit for both our churches and our wider community.

Families to get help to cook smarter, save money and eat well

The borough council has teamed up with award-winning meal planning platform [FiveDinners.com](https://www.fivedinners.com), founded by TV chef and author Theo Michaels, to support local families by giving away free premium membership to the platform.

“As a father of three and working fulltime I know how hard it can be for many families and individuals to figure out what to cook every night – it is a faff!” said Theo Michaels, founder of FiveDinners. “By working with the Borough Council of King’s Lynn & West Norfolk, we’re making it easier for families to enjoy delicious, affordable, home-cooked meals together while helping them save money and cut food waste. And because the plans are personalised, residents set their preferences; number of people they are feeding, allergies, etc. and get a brand-new personalised meal plan with a complete shopping list every week”

Residents who sign up will join over 30,000 other members who get instant access to a wide variety of tried-and-tested meal plans designed for every lifestyle; be it quick and easy, affordable, menopause focussed and more. Each week, members receive a personalised meal plan with a complete shopping list with step-by-step instructions for total novices in the kitchen to the Masterchefs out there.

The community can sign up at: [FiveDinners.com/MyCommunity](https://www.fivedinners.com/MyCommunity) and clicking on the Borough Council of King’s Lynn & West Norfolk.

About FiveDinners

FiveDinners.com is a UK-based meal planning platform founded by chef, author, and TV presenter Theo Michaels. The service provides weekly personalised meal plans and ready-made shopping lists designed to save families time, money, and food waste. Trusted by over 30,000 users, councils, NHS Trusts, and organisations nationwide, FiveDinners offers tailored meal plans including menopause-friendly, mums-to-be, gluten free, calorie-controlled and lots more.

Guildhall renovation project raises over £1.5m from private and public external funders

The inspirational project to breathe new life into St George's Guildhall in King's Lynn has raised more than £1.5m in six months of fundraising, as a new major private donation is welcomed towards the renovation.

Work is underway on-site to revive the medieval venue, empty buildings and courtyards as inspiring, welcoming spaces for everyone, creating a heritage destination, new food and drink offer, home for creative industries and year-round programme of performances, events and education programmes.

In July 2025, Full Council agreed to earmark the funding required to allow these works to go ahead on schedule, while fundraising progressed behind the scenes. Since then, the confidence of borough councillors in the importance of the project, for King's Lynn and the region, appears to have been justified with over £1.5m coming in through external fundraising in the first six months alone.

Historic England generously supported the project with over £700,000 from its Heritage at Risk Capital Fund, then this week the Hermann Reemtsma Stiftung, a charitable foundation based in the historic Hansa City of Hamburg, has announced over £800,000 (1 Million Euros) to the Guildhall Charity to support the project.

These contributions from the last six months are on top of external funding previously secured from the Norfolk and Norwich Festival and 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.

As the flagship scheme of the King's Lynn Town Deal Programme and a priority of the Pride in Place Programme, the Guildhall is being sensitively preserved and enhanced as a local, regional and international centre for arts, creativity and theatre for everyone to enjoy.

The St George's Guildhall and Creative Hub Project is led by the Borough Council, in partnership with King's Lynn Neighbourhood Board, Historic England and Norfolk Museum Service, in collaboration with the National Trust who own the freehold of part of the Guildhall site.

The main works started in November, with the site scheduled to reopen in 2028.



PAUL BROWN

Painter @ Decorator

07910 830057

paulbro2@sky.com

Heath Rise

Syderstone

Borough Council Adopts Norfolk Local Nature Recovery Strategy

The Borough Council has formally adopted the Norfolk Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS), a key requirement of the 2021 Environment Act. This legislation places new legal duties on local authorities, including ambitious targets such as achieving 10% Biodiversity Net Gain and producing a Local Nature Recovery Strategy.

The Norfolk LNRS was developed through a wide-ranging partnership involving Norfolk and Suffolk local authorities, environmental bodies such as the Environment Agency, Forestry Commission, Local Wildlife Trusts, Natural England, as well as landowners and community groups. While the Norfolk & Suffolk Nature Recovery Partnership worked jointly on the process, separate strategies have been prepared for each county.



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THE RUDHAMS AND DISTRICT VILLAGE HALL

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Regular activities				
Monday	10.00-11.00	Short Tennis	Maggie Pattison	01485 528842 magpattison@btinternet.com
	19.00-21.00	Dog Training	Lisa Pearson	07985 473821 hemptonogdogtraininggroup@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 quarterly	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

THE RUDHAMS SCHOOL REPORT

It has been a busy return to school from the Christmas break. The children have all come back eager to begin their new topics. Tawny Owls have the topic on Wacky Races, with a focus on transport. Their outside area as been turned into a garage. Our children in Barn Owls are learning about Chocolate - they are planning a trip to Cadbury World after the half term break. One of the highlights for them so far has been painting with chocolate!

The children in Eagle Owls are learning about Crime and Punishment through the ages.

We are continuing with Forest Schools weekly. The cold weather has not stopped the children from enjoying the outside environment.

You may have noticed that our Friends are collecting the blue tokens in Tesco Fakenham again. This time it is a new school garden. Some of the money raised last term has been put towards equipment of a new sensory area in school. This is a valued space where children, who just need a little more time, are able to go and regulate before joining the class.

We held a Candlemas service in school on 3rd February. We were joined by Father Edward and each child was given a candle to take home. As you can see, lots of things going on. We are also looking for signs of Spring - we have noticed that there are a few bulbs poking through the ground!

Finally, Mrs Allen has announced that she will be leaving Rudham School at the end of the academic year. Mrs Allen has been at Rudham since 2005 when she joined as a part-time teacher. She became Executive Headteacher in September 2013. The recruitment process is underway for a new Executive Headteacher to move the Federation into its next chapter. Mrs Allen will certainly miss the community in Rudham.

Belinda Allen
Executive Head Teacher
Hope Federation of Church of England Academies
(Brisley and Rudham)

New dryside facilities to bolster riverfront revival in King's Lynn

Work is starting to transform an empty quayside building in King's Lynn into a new facility for visiting mariners, as part of wider ambitions to make more of the historic riverfront for the benefit of residents and tourists.

The Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk is converting the annexe to the former Sommerfeld and Thomas warehouse to provide welcoming dryside facilities for leisure craft owners who moor up at the South Quay pontoons, including showers, toilets, washing machines, visitor information and water bottle refills.

The latest exciting investment as part of the King's Lynn Town Deal regeneration programme, the dryside conversion also supports the council's partnership work to promote 'Sail the Wash' and bring more visitors into King's Lynn via the river, supporting local businesses and the vibrancy of the riverfront and town centre.

Starting in January internal conversion works are expected to take around four months to complete, with access maintained for all residents and businesses in the area. Externally, the annexe will look similar, in keeping with the listed warehouse next door.

Cllr Simon Ring, Deputy Council Leader, said: "Following the granting of Listed Building Consent for the Custom House, it's great to announce work starting on the dryside as part of our wider plans to revive the whole of this amazing riverside, connecting the past with the present by creating a vibrant attractive destination for residents and visitors.

"Dryside facilities were requested by people who use the pontoon and will provide an even warmer welcome to King's Lynn, as well as bringing an empty building back into valuable use. This is another step forward under our emerging Masterplan vision to link up both ends the riverfront with renewed activity. It also supports our ongoing marketing efforts of the large historic warehouse next door, which would be great as an hotel or restaurant."

Olly Parker, of EN Suiter and Sons Ltd, which is the borough council's contractor for these works, said: "As a King's Lynn-based, family-run business, EN Suiter & Sons Ltd is delighted to be part of the dryside facility remodelling and refurbishment scheme. This is a fantastic local project, and we're really pleased to be working with the Borough Council of Kings Lynn and West Norfolk to help deliver the high quality new facilities for the town and its community."

Led by the borough council in partnership with King's Lynn Neighbourhood Board, the Town Deal programme is helping to 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.

Details of how to access the dryside facilities will be available on the council's website and the 'Sail the Wash' website – www.sailthewash.com – in due course. Sail the Wash is a marketing initiative in partnership with other coastal locations around the Wash to provide information and navigation advice aimed to encourage leisure craft visitors to different locations around the Wash., from Gibraltar Point in the west to Morston, Blakemney and Cley in the east.

Tidy-up of Key Walking and Cycling Route

Work to tidy up an overgrown section of a walking and cycling route in King's Lynn has been completed by the Borough Council in response to concerns from the community.

The work has immediately improved the Sandringham Railway Path, prior to bird-nesting season, while discussions continue with Norfolk County Council, which is responsible for the route, to secure ongoing maintenance, thinning of the overhanging tree canopy and better lighting.

The spruce-up focussed on the pathway along the side of Strikes Bowl and included cutting back and removing lower-level vegetation to improve visibility and light, removing litter and fly-tipped waste from the area, and sweeping the path to ensure a clean and secure footing for users.

Cllr Sandra Squire, the borough council's Cabinet member for environment and coastal, said: "We want to support and encourage people to get around by foot or bicycle where possible and this is a key route, including to Lynnsport, KES Academy, King's Lynn Academy, College of West Anglia and residential areas.

"I would like to thank our Public Open Spaces team for the immediate improvement they've achieved. While this path is not a borough council responsibility, we responded swiftly to concerns from our community about safety and anti-social behaviour, and we are actively speaking with the county council about ongoing maintenance and longer-term improvements."

Kerry Heathcote, Deputy CEO and Vice Principal of Quality and Curriculum at the College of West Anglia, said: "Many of our students and staff would prefer to walk or cycle this way, but they often felt reluctant to do so, given the lack of natural surveillance and insufficient lighting.

"As they became aware of my role on the King's Lynn Neighbourhood Board, I received a number of requests to take urgent action. I'm therefore grateful to the borough council for their immediate response, which has made a significant difference to this area, and I look forward to a longer-term plan in partnership with the county council. Feedback this week from CWA staff and students has been very positive overall, but I have duly acknowledged there is still more to be done."

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- 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.

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.

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COMMUNITY CAR SCHEME		01485 520 823
DOCKING SURGERY		01485 520 521
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		bookingsrudhamvllagehall@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 May 10th for inclusion in the Summer edition which is delivered to every household is published on our website and has a link from our facebook page. Advertisements are very welcome

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