



# THE WISSETT WEB

DELIVERED FREE TO EVERY HOME IN WISSETT

BIMONTHLY

NO 164 JUNE 2024

ONLINE VERSION AT [WWW.WISSETT.ONESUFFOLK.NET](http://WWW.WISSETT.ONESUFFOLK.NET)

## GRAYS LANE SOLAR FACTORY

The developer of the proposed solar factory and battery storage units at Grays Lane, Pathfinder Clean Energy (PACE), has recently tried again to dismiss a number of outstanding objections about fire safety, the loss of good quality agricultural land and damage to the rural landscape. Wissett Parish Council and the Save Grays Lane Campaign Group, are continuing to take issue with the developer's latest claims by submitting further evidence to show that this development should not be allowed. Details of our objections can be seen on the Save Grays Lane website at: [savegrayslane.org](http://savegrayslane.org)

Amongst the many objections raised by local people and organisations, there are currently three main concerns:

### **The likely doubling of the size of the site if planning permission is granted ...**

Our research has recently revealed that the land owner, Mark Haddingham, entered into a further leasing option with PACE in 2021 for about 109 acres of farmland stretching north from Bulhams up to Rumburgh Lane. This agreement signals the likelihood of a further planning application to double the size of the currently proposed site if the first application is successful. PACE has not disclosed this additional lease option to ESC, Wissett Parish Council or the Save Grays Lane Campaign which supports our view that they are not a responsible developer.

### **The loss of good agricultural land ...**

The Government are now beginning to recognise the importance of food security and are tightening planning guidance to protect good quality agricultural land. The daily Telegraph reported two weeks ago that:

*Councils will be urged ... not to approve planning permission for solar farms on high-quality farmland ... making clear that such projects should only be given the go-ahead when absolutely "necessary". A new planning framework unveiled six months ago was meant to make the position clear, but ministers fear projects are still being approved that fall short of their demands. Councils will also be told to take into account whether other solar farms are nearby when considering an application for a new one, thereby focusing on the "cumulative" impact.*

We are hoping that this enhanced protection will make it easier for ESC planners and Councillors to reject the Grays Lane planning application.

### **Inadequate fire safety plan for battery storage units ...**

The latest Fire Safety Management Plan submitted by PACE fails again to safeguard local people and the environment. It shows that proper risk assessment of the dangers of fire will only be made after the site has been built! The so-called Plan makes no suitable provision for a water supply to manage a fire and no adequate environmental protection for the 'toxic' water that will be discharged during attempts to control a fire.

All of the above issues have been exposed to the ESC planning department, alongside numerous other objections about the ruination of the local landscape. We now think that the application is likely to be heading for a Public Council meeting in the next couple of months so the possible dates at the offices in Lowestoft appear to be:

Tuesday 9 July at 2pm

Tuesday 13 August at 2pm

Tuesday 10 September at 2pm

We will keep you updated as we know more ...

**Save Grays Lane Steering Group**

[info@savegrayslane.org](mailto:info@savegrayslane.org)

## **NEW EDITOR STILL NEEDED**

This village newsletter is still in need of a new editor.

Someone with ideas, able to put their own stamp on the job. Someone who is not yet 80!

Would suit someone who loves Wissett and who would like to see information spread for all to enjoy.

Phone Jenny Ball on 01986 469611 or 0754 919 0004

# ST ANDREW'S CHURCH WISSETT

## JUNE SERVICES

2nd - Team service in Halesworth  
 9th - Morning Prayer (Jim) 10 am  
 16th - Holy Communion (Dominic) 10 am  
 23rd- Breakfast church 10 am  
 30th - Petertide service at Spexhall (Dominic) 10 am

## JULY SERVICES (Assumed)

7th - Team Service at Halesworth  
 14th - Morning prayer 10 am  
 Choral Evensong at Spexhall 6 pm  
 21st - Holy Communion 10 am  
 28th - PET SERVICE (Time to be announced)

## CHURCH NEWS

First of all a big thank you to all involved in the Plant Sale in May. £968 is a wonderful sum raised for the upkeep of the church. Well done!

“A dripping June keeps all in tune.” Let us hope for everything in moderation, sunshine and a little rain at night maybe? The wild flowers and grasses in the older part of the churchyard have really bloomed happily with the sun and rain recently and there are baby blue tits cheeping from a little gap in the church flint wall near the porch. I should record it as the week from the 8th to the 16th of June is Churches Count for Nature Week, also “Love your Burial Ground Week”.

I am not sure about that title but I know the churchyard, where so many old friends and neighbours are buried, is loved and cared for and how comforting and necessary visiting and tending to a grave of a loved one can be.

The church is open every day not only for Sunday services. On Thursday July the 4th it will also serve as the Polling Station for Wissett! Do come along! I expect the church was used for different meetings and as a focal point for the village in times gone by.

As ever keep a look out for information and notices about church services as I have heard that there is to be a Pet Service on 28th July for all creatures great and small!

I know it is a while away yet but time goes so quickly so a reminder now about Suffolk Historic Churches Trust Bike Ride on Saturday 14th of September if you would like to ride or stride. Save the date as modern people say.

Mary Pester



**The Wissett Hoards**, of Middle Bronze Age palstave axe heads and spear heads, were discovered by metal detectorists in 2011. They are now seen as great academic interest and the axe heads are considered to be one of the best, if not the

best, collection of such axes in the country. The first hoard was first displayed in the Wissett Plough to a massive number of people. Since that time the population of Wissett has changed and the understanding of the hoards has deepened.

To renew the interest in the hoards the Museum is holding an open evening for Wissett people on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June, starting at 6:30. This will give people the chance to see the hoard and to hear the latest information about them.

We will have to restrict numbers to this event so do let us know who will be attending, please email [office@halesworthmuseum.org.uk](mailto:office@halesworthmuseum.org.uk). If you cannot attend this meeting do pop into the Museum to see this wonderful find.

Brian Howard

## ANNE MEEK

Anne Meek lived in Wissett for many years, at White House Farm. She had many friends here, several of them have either died or moved away. A few may remain. Anne died recently and is going to be buried in Wissett Churchyard on June 5th at 12 noon.

Her sister, Joan Gilbert, would like anyone who knew her to come to the burial. If you can come, please make yourself known to Joan. It is not known what form the “service” will take. All are welcome.

## EVELYN AND ERNIE WOOLNOUGH

Evelyn and Ernie would like to thank everyone for their kind messages on the occasion of their 70th wedding anniversary.

**Congratulations to you both!**



## DON'T FORGET THE FOOD BANK

There has been much shocking publicity recently about the levels of poverty in our area and the Food Bank is in urgent need of more contributions. These can be left in the box in Wissett Church or in St Mary's Church Halesworth for distribution locally. The box in the church is emptied daily. Dry and tinned goods are best. The Coop has a trolley for food bank donations. Anything put in there will go to the needy in the wider Waveney area.

If you are in need go to Halesworth Church Hall on Wednesdays, 10.30 to 11.30.

## THE JUNGLE ROOM AT THE PLOUGH



COME AND ENJOY THE DELICIOUS  
FOOD AND DRINK AVAILABLE.

All day breakfasts, grazing boards  
brunches, savoury snacks,  
Truly scrumptious cakes, and indulgent treats.

Heavenly healthy indoor plants for sale

Open from Thursdays to Mondays

9.30 am to 4 pm

Sundays 10 am to 4 pm

Dog friendly

### WISSETT PARISH COUNCIL. ANNUAL MEETING

The Parish Council met on Thursday, 16th May in Rumburgh-Village Hall, as Wissett Village Hall is undergoing renovations.

#### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

##### Finance

The Council's finances remain good.

##### Developments over the year

VAS continues to be used every 3 months. Occasional use of ANPR by the police.

The Parish Council continues to work with Rumburgh and Spexhall PCs in opposing the proposed solar development in Grays Lane.

The Parish Council continues to support Councillor Edward Flaxman in the Wissett Biodiversity Plan and is actively encouraging volunteers to develop and agree a Neighbourhood Plan for submission to Suffolk County Council for adoption.

New goal posts were erected on the Village Field following a generous donation from the Wissett Community Council.

##### Grants

The Parish Council made grants of £980 for churchyard maintenance, £100 for the Wissett Web and £520.10 to the Village Hall Committee for the annual insurance.

The Chairman thanked all members of the Council, the Parish Clerk, CCAnnette Dunning, and DCs Beth Keys-Holloway and Geoffrey Wakeling for their continued support over the year.

#### **THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Followed the Annual Meeting. Among other items discussed were:

- VAS (Vehicle Activated Speed) equipment will be in use soon.
- Grays Lane proposed solar farm - DC/22/3313/FUL. Please see front page
- Coronation mugs. There are still a few available.
- Neighbourhood Plan. The chairman will prepare a Policies and Objectives document for further discussion.
- Local biodiversity plan. Website up and running. See Wissett home page.

Nobody has yet come forward to take the role of Parish Clerk in the place of Bill Simpson. If nobody comes forward from adjacent villages, it will be necessary to advertise formally through Suffolk Association of Local Councils.

Following the sad death of a local man in a road traffic accident on the Wissett to Halesworth road discussions are under way to try to make the road safer. Possibly by reducing the speed limit

Date of next meeting is Thursday 18th July 2024. Venue TBA.

## WISSETT CARPET BOWLS



Wednesdays at 7 o'clock in the Village Hall,  
when it is functioning again.

Everyone welcome to have a bowl and a chat.



### TWO GARDENS OPEN The Old School House and The Grange

On June 9th, from 2 to 5 in aid of  
the Pear Tree Centre,

Louise Harris and Caroline and

Frank Burton welcome you to their gardens.

Tickets and refreshments at The Old School House.

The Street, Wissett

Parking at the Wissett allotments or at Manor Farm.  
Stalls and entertainment from Station 366 at The Old School house...singing swing!

### MARY COPPERTHWAITTE

Mary and Peter Copperthwaite and their children, Rachel and Joseph, came to live in Wissett in the early 1990's. They had holidayed in the area for many years and knew Suffolk well. During their many years in the village they joined in and helped with all aspects of its social life. Mary supported Jenny in starting the Wissett Web.

Mary became Town Clerk of Halesworth and the family moved to live in the town. She became an important part of the life of the town, volunteering at the Cut and the Art Box.

She died last year after a long, bravely born illness.

On Sunday 5th May, there was a celebration of her life at The Cut. Literally hundreds of her friends and relations attended to remember Mary and reminisce about a truly life-enhancing life. *David Ball*

### VILLAGE HALL - Flood Repairs

We are continuing to work with our insurers, Hiscox, to make repairs to the hall following the flood in October 2023. So far, the damaged floors and skirting boards have been removed and six weeks of drying with fans and dehumidifiers has been completed. We are now waiting for the refurbishment works to begin in order to reopen the hall by the end of July. This will involve:

1. Removing the remaining wooden-tiled floor and replacing it with something durable.
2. Recovering the floors in the kitchen, foyer and gents wc with 'altro' covering.
3. Some low level replastering.
4. Replacing all the skirting boards.
5. Redecorating - mostly in the main hall, foyer and gents wc.

*Symon Clarke. Chairman Village Hall Committee.*

## WISSETT VILLAGE HALL

The hall costs £7 per hour for the duration of the event and includes all tables, chairs, crockery, cutlery etc. These are included in the hire charge. Heating is by a £1 or £2 slot meter. There is a returnable deposit of £50. Please book online at [wissettvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:wissettvillagehall@gmail.com)

## LOCAL SCOUT ASSOCIATION

**Beavers, Cubs and Scouts**  
**Meetings on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.**  
**Contact Brian Howard at 1 Brickhill Cottages Wissett**  
**01986 875551**  
**or [brian@iminter.co.uk](mailto:brian@iminter.co.uk)**  
**Scout HQ is in Chediston Street, Halesworth.**

**MIKE KING. 07710984663 or 01986 875974**

### **BIRD TROUBLES SOLVED:**

Chimney cowls, vent caps, bird guards fitted.

Flexible liners. Ladderwork.

Woodburning stoves installed/refurbished

**Free inspection and advice service.**

## **WISSETT FARM HOLIDAYS**

**Award winning Self-catering accommodation**

**01986 873173**

[www.wissettfarmholidays.co.uk](http://www.wissettfarmholidays.co.uk)

Email: [enquiries@wissettfarmholidays.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@wissettfarmholidays.co.uk)



**HAPPY FEET!** By Susan Fitch.

General foot health care...ingrown toenails,

Corns, calluses, verrucas, painful hard skin,

Deep tissue massage, thick nails trimmed.

Home visits. Phone 01986 872067 or 07497371073



*Hair dressing in your own home. Call Karina on 875974*

## **JUST MOVED INTO THE VILLAGE? WELCOME!**

You'll need your copy of the village book! Contact David or Jenny Ball, on 469611 for your free copy. There are still plenty of books available free to residents.

## **CALVER ELECTRICAL**

Domestic Rewires ~~~ Consumer Unit upgrades  
Extra Sockets ~~~ Lighting ~~~ Phone & TV Points

## **GARDEN LANDSCAPING**

## **HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE**

**Tel: 01986 874046 Mob: 07777675204**

## **USEFUL INFORMATION**

### DOCTOR

Cutlers Hill Surgery, Halesworth 874618

### PLUMBING & OIL-FIRED BOILER MAINTENANCE

Kevin Hawes 874708

### AVON TOILETRIES

Hannah Pretty, 3, Brickhill Cottages, Wissett 835780

### BUILDING CONSULTANT:

Al Campbell. Design and Build. 874976

### DOG GROOMING/BOARDING

Byebrue 785264

### ELECTRICIAN

Chris Calver 07777675204 or 874046

### FOOT CARE PRACTITIONER

Susan Fitch. Home visits 01986 872067 or 07497371073

### GARDEN PLANTS

For sale outside Rickyards, Mill Road and 9 The Street

### MILK

WILL's LOCAL Marybelle Milk and cream. 0800 434 6212

### MOBILE LIBRARY.

The mobile library is calling in Wissett, every 4 weeks on Thursdays and stops in the VILLAGE CAR PARK from around 2:05pm until 2:25pm. June 27th July 25th 2024

### ALCOHOLICS-ANONYMOUS

at The Harmony Centre Walpole 0207 40 30 888

## **“Beck Cottage Studio”**

Delightful self-catering holiday accommodation for two people

Please contact Jane Parry 01986 874359 for further information and availability

## **KELLY'S HOME HELP**

20 years experience. Fully CRB checked.

Available for: Home care, Cleaning, Personal care, Shopping, Companionship.

Please call Kelly on 07985346073

## **BOND'S FARM SHOP, WISSETT**

**Local produce**

**Derek and Cynthia Nunn offer you fresh home grown fruit and vegetables in season at competitive prices.**

**VILLAGE TENT. 10 METRES X 4 METRES.**

**Rates for the hire of the village tent:**

**Wissett residents.....£50 Non-residents.....£70**

**Phone Alan Witherby if you want to hire it: 873339**

**Help sometimes needed on the day.**

If you would like to advertise in the Wissett Web, please phone the Editor on 01986 469611 or 07549190004

Any news, views or comments for inclusion in the Wissett Web to Jenny Ball, Editor, Birches, Wash Lane, Wissett. 01986 469611 OR 07549190004 **BEFORE 20th JULY**

**Please note: The editor's decision is always final**