

PRESTON PARISH PAPER

Village Activities & News | St Mary's Church | Local Clubs & Events

Dates for your diary

Art Trail 1-13 April

'Wot Larks' Sat 8th April

Ladies Group Mon 10 April

Easter Services 14-16 April

Annual Parish Assembly
Tues 25 April

New style Service Sun 7
May

Rogation Service Sun 21
May

Village Hall AGM Tues 30
May

Village Hall Fete Sat 1 July

EASTER MONDAY at
The SIX BELLS
MONDAY 17th APRIL
SPECIAL OFFER:
Book your table on
Easter Monday for
another chance to
indulge in our fabulous
Sunday roasts! Enjoy a
complimentary Bloody
Mary on us while the
kids run wild at our
Easter Egg Hunt. Simply
call us today and quote
"PPN": 01787 247 440
or
email: [reservations@the
sixbellspreston.com](mailto:reservations@thesixbellspreston.com)



Mothering Sunday 26th March 2017

Pictured are some of the congregation from the Mothering Sunday service held recently. During the service we raised awareness of the Diocese's **Kagera Lent Challenge** and particularly as it was Mothering Sunday because the challenge for the day was that we should pray especially for the orphans in Kagera who are supported by the Tumaini Fund. Tumaini in Swahili means 'hope' – so the 'Tumaini Fund' is the 'Hope Fund'.

According to the Tumaini Fund "there could be 200,000 orphans, mostly due to AIDS which exploded in this area at the time of the genocides in Rwanda and Burundi." These orphans are in dire need of hope. Many of them are without food, care, a home or education so this fund works hard to help the children born into such a desperate situation. Further information can be located on their web site:

www.tumainifund.org.uk

WHO'S WHO IN THE VILLAGE

APRIL & MAY 2017

Parish Council

CHAIRMAN	Kerrie McGrory	montyone1@hotmail.com
CLERK	Nicola Smith	prestonpcclerk@gmail.com

Parochial Church Council

RECTOR	Rev'd Stephen Earl	247244	earls2222@btinternet.com
CHURCHWARDENS	Janet Martin	249020	janet.martin@btconnect.com
	Keith Davis	247112	keithhdavis@btinternet.com

Friends of Preston St Mary Church

CHAIRMAN	Janet Martin	as above
SECRETARY	Laura Ashford	247069 laursash1@yahoo.co.uk

Village Hall

CHAIRMAN	Annie Mason	247100	ranniemason@btinternet.com
SEC./BOOKINGS	Sue Diggins	247810	sdiggins2rda-east.org.uk

Art Group

Monday mornings, 3 terms of 12 weeks

NEW MEMBERS	Jim Wilkins	248233	jimwilkins97@aol.com
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Ladies Group

Informal gatherings arranged for most months of the year, usually on Mondays

CO-ORDINATOR	Anne Springall	247156	annespringall@gmail.com
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Book Club

CO-ORDINATOR	Caroline Gove	247786	thosegoves@aol.com
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Table Tennis

Thursday evenings at 7.30 in the Village Hall

CO-ORDINATOR	Dave Williams	williams.jackdaws@btinternet.com
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The Six Bells Pub	247440	reservations@thesixbellspreston.com
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Neighbourhood Watch

Sue Cawston	247189	kishcash@tiscali.co.uk
Mervyn Cochrane	247810	

Preston St Mary Parish Paper

News of events & village life, distributed free to every household, bi-monthly

EDITOR	Caroline Gove	247786	pstmppaper@gmail.com
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Doctors' Surgeries

Bildeston	01449-740254	Lavenham	378226
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Local Councillors

Suffolk County Council	Jenny Antill (Con)	378310	jenny.antill@suffolk.gov.uk or jennyantill@antill.com
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Babergh District Council	Clive Arthey (Ind)	211316	clive.urthery@babergh.gov.uk or clive.lindsey@tiscali.co.uk
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Community Liaison Officer	Cally Boardman	cally.boardman@suffolk.gov.uk
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PCSO	Laura Mansell	Non emergency number 101
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PRESTON ST MARY PARISH CHURCH NEW STYLE SERVICE

Starting on 7th May this year, we propose to change the style of service for the first Sunday of each month and we warmly welcome any residents who are not regular church-goers. What are the changes?

1. The time of the service has changed from 9 am (“too early” for some) to 12 noon.
2. Teas/coffees will be on offer in the church from 11.30 so that those attending will have a bit of social time - and sustenance.
3. The format of the service will be updated. Instead of the traditional morning service (“too old-fashioned and restrictive” for some) we have devised a modern, flexible pattern that will usually be led by a non-ordained member of the community. It will incorporate different styles of music and accompaniment, will be only 30 – 40 minutes long and will be appropriate for all-comers, including children and the young at heart.

In summary: First Sunday in the month, from May onwards.

From 11.30 for light refreshments, service at 12 noon.

Good company, refreshments, an uplifting service and good news.

COME ALONG AND SEE FOR YOURSELVES!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY (FOR EASTER ARRANGEMENTS, SEE SEPARATE PAGE)

Saturday, 8 th April	Lent Lunch in Lavenham Village Hall, 12 noon till 2 pm, provided by Preston St Mary volunteers. Soup, roll, cheese, tea/coffee – and good fellowship!
Sunday, 23 rd April	“Pimms & Hymns”: Thanksgiving Service for all the Friends of Preston St Mary Church, 12 noon - followed by light lunch!
Also on Sunday, 23 rd April	Last day for any additions to the Church Electoral Roll. Any one wishing to be included should please advise Sue Diggins (01787 247810) by this date.
Sunday, 30 th April	Annual Parish Church Meeting. To be held in the church immediately after the 6 pm service. All welcome to attend.
Sunday, 7 th May	The first of our new style services. Informal, modern (short!) - and preceded by tea/coffee and biscuits! Refreshments from 11.30, service at 12 noon.
Friday, 19 th May	Special service commemorating 75th Anniversary of US Forces arriving in East Anglia. 10.00 am in Lavenham church.
Sunday, 21 st May	Rogation Sunday. 12 noon service in Preston Priory Barn followed by walk around the fields to bless the crops - and then our super BBQ! By kind permission again of Denise and Alan Luck.
Friday, 23 rd June	7 pm in our church, talk by Clive Paine of the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust. Clive will point out the treasures and the other fascinating features of our lovely church. With refreshments!
Saturday, 24 th June	The Swyft Singers, concert of unaccompanied sacred and secular choral music from Palestrina to Vaughan Williams and arrangements of folk songs and spirituals. 7.30 pm in the church. With refreshments!

**PRESTON ST MARY
CHURCH
EASTER
SERVICES**



**12 NOON 14th
APRIL'17**

GOOD FRIDAY

**PRESTON PEOPLE'S
PASSION SERVICE**

6.30AM 16TH APRIL '17

EASTER DAY

NEW FIRE

Petition to the Poor Law Commissioners from Preston St Mary Poor in 1835

Before he left Preston St Mary, to live in Wales, Luke Potter handed me a photocopy of a document that he had unearthed on a visit to the National Archives in Kew, which throws light on the poverty of agricultural workers in the middle of the 19th century. Spelling and grammar remain as in document.

The historical background to the petition is the amendment in 1834 to the Poor Law which was passed by an overwhelming majority in Parliament to reduce the cost of looking after the poor. Money was only to be given in exceptional circumstances and the poor had to apply to the workhouse to get it. There they were given clothes and food in exchange for several hours manual labour each day. Inside the workhouse, uniforms were issued and families split up. The diet of mealy bread and watery soup was terrible. Conditions were made so bad to deter only those people who were truly desperate.

The Petition from Preston

Gentlemen, we your petitioners and starving poor in the parish of Preston in the County of Suffolk -bege leave to Lay Before your Honourable Board for your most Gracious Consideration The way in which we are Intreated our allowance is only 1/3 per head per week and when our fuel and hearth is taken out of that sum we have not more than one halfpenny for Each Meal In the Day and our children are crying around us for Bread and as we have no work on the Land the overseer makes us work on the Roads from 6 in the morning to 6 in the evening for this small allowance of fifteen pence per head and as we have no other Remedy only to throw ourselves on your mercy and protection and as the management of we suffering poor is entirely left to your Most Gracious Consideration we bage you will answer this prayer of our petition by sending us word what allowance your honourable board may think proper to adopt for our support.

We have Been Expecting an Assistant Commissioner being sent down to hear the Complaints of the poor But None have arrived in our parrish. We thy petitioners bage you will answer this as we are well persuaded It is in your power to offer Reliefe to keep the poor from Starving. If we cannot get any Reliefe from this letter we must petition to the Lord Lieutenant of the County of Suffolk.—But we hope and Trust to your honourable Board note? Do suffer for our Reliefe Consider the Number of Children Each man have,

Signed in this Letter (missing words)

Signed Thomas Gillon,

James Polstone wife with 7 children

William Symond wife 4 Children

John Lister wife and 7 Children

John Hollox wife and 5 Children

William Campling wife and 5 Children

I Could a got a Grate many Moor signeaters But I Thought hear was plenty to point out our Distress.

Janet Martin

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

100 CLUB

Just a reminder that, if you haven't yet had the dreaded knock on your door, then you soon might, to find a member of the committee seeking renewal of the subscription – just £4 per head that gives you a chance to win one of the 12 prizes in 2017 with a total treasure chest of £200. Many thanks in advance for taking part in this draw, which forms a valuable element of our overall fund-raising.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

SATURDAY 1 July 2017

See poster for further details of the forthcoming village fete

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The date for this has been set for 7.30 pm on Tuesday 30th May in the Village Hall. All welcome.

**ANNIE MASON, Chairman, 01787 247100 SUE DIGGINS, Secretary, 01787 247810
KEITH DAVIS, Treasurer, 01787 247112**

A New Arrival!

In recognition of Lavenham & Preston St Mary benefice acknowledged as good training ground, we have again been allocated a trainee priest who will be moving into 7 Weavers Close, Lavenham just after Easter.

Captain Paul Tyler, married to Isobel, has many years experience in ministry with the Church Army most recently as a lay Community Minister in the North Bury Team. He has additionally served in the role of chaplain both to the Police Force and to the ATC in Bury St Edmunds (12's-18's). Prior to joining the Church Army he served in the British Army in the Royal Engineers.

Paul already has a degree in Religious Education Studies, and (like our two ordinands) will be on an accelerated training course. Whilst starting in May as a lay Community Minister, he will be ordained 'deacon' this Advent when his title will become 'Revd Captain' and 'Curate', and in June next year he will be ordained priest. Altogether he will be with us for about three years.

There will be a special service for his Licensing by the Archdeacon of Sudbury to which all are invited at 7.30pm on Wednesday 10th May in Lavenham Church with refreshments at the back of church afterwards.

We look forward to the addition of his experience and ideas here in this benefice and particularly in the area of further developing our church and community links.

Stephen. (Rector)



Paul himself writes...

I have been a Church Army Officer for 33 years this June serving in Hull, Oldham, Withington (South Manchester), Huntingdon, Rye and most recently in Bury St Edmunds as Community Minister in the North Bury Team Ministry. I have been married to Isobel 14 years this year and have two grown up sons Andrew and Philip from a previous marriage.

My moving to Lavenham is in preparation for ordination as Deacon at Advent and Priest in June next year. I will be licensed initially as Community Minister in Lavenham on the 10th of May and become the Curate once ordained Deacon. Not the way the Church of England usually does things but hopefully a way that will help Stephen and benefit the Lavenham and Preston Benefice.

For those unfamiliar with Church Army; it was founded in 1882 by the Reverend Wilson Carlile (an Anglican Priest and contemporary of William Booth - who founded the Salvation Army) as a Lay organisation working in parishes alongside the parish priest. Officers also worked with the homeless, single mothers, as chaplains and also undertook evangelistic missions around the country in horse drawn caravans as well as at the seaside.

Isobel and I look forward very much to joining you at Lavenham and Preston and ask even if we don't recognise you straight away you will say hello and enlighten our blindness.

PRESTON ST MARY & DISTRICT LADIES CLUB

Meetings usually held on 2nd Monday in every month at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall - unless stated otherwise.

New Members are always welcome so do come and join us. The annual subscription is only £10, and only £2 when you attend a monthly meeting, which includes raffle prizes and refreshment.

Upcoming meetings and Programme for 2017

April 10th WHO LIVED IN YOUR HOUSE? Roy Hollocks who, as many of you will know, is our local History Recorder for the village, will be displaying some of his vast collection of historical documents and photos about Preston St Mary. Although not a talk in the formal sense, he and his wife **Janet**, will be very happy to answer any questions you might have about Preston St Mary, or about the house that you live in and who occupied it in the past. This short note does not do justice to Roy's seemingly inexhaustible knowledge of Preston St Mary. We are sure that this will be an evening of interest to all and are therefore making it an **Open Evening** for everyone - so please do come along.

May 8th Details to be advised - will email Members details of speaker.

JUNE MEETING: PLEASE NOTE NEW DATE AND TIME (in place of 12th June)

**FRIDAY 9TH JUNE 10.00AM TO 1.00PM
POTTERY WITH SANDY LARKMAN.**

I have arranged with Sandy Larkman for us spend the morning at her studio at Edwardstone on the above time and date. Sandy, a renowned artist and potter, has said that we can make whatever we like. There are lots of plaster moulds to help you make dishes & bowls, or you can try your hand at throwing a pot on the wheel or have a go at sculpting a figure or animal. Sandy's website is: sandylarkman.co.uk if you would like to view her work. Interested? Please let me know as soon as possible to book your place. Price for the morning is only £11 each, since the Ladies Club is subsidising the morning.

July 10th **Roaring 20's.** Kate Hanlon has very generously agreed to bring her wonderful collection of 1920's and 1930's costumes, hats, and purses dating from this period, and also some accessories and jewellery. Some items you will be able to handle and others just look, because of their fragility. Kate will

Speak informally about how her collection came about and a little about one or two particularly interesting pieces, and will be happy to answer your questions. The summer evening light at this meeting should show off Kate's collection to perfection.

August 14th **Garden Meeting . Lyn Davis** has very kindly volunteered to host the evening at Addison House, Whelp St. **Please note the evening will begin at 6.30pm.**

September 11th **Sing with Lyn.** Lyn Davis will lead us in an evening of lighthearted songs that we are all sure to know and love, from some of the most memorable shows.

October 9th **FILM NIGHT.** Janet Martin has once again very kindly agreed to host Film Night. This is always an enjoyable evening at Preston Hall.

November 13th **The Lighter Side of Banking.** Keith Davis will be talking about banking! Don't worry, I am assured that Keith's talk is not at all serious, and is in fact very amusing .

December **CHRISTMAS MEAL -** date and venue to be advised nearer the time

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Report on Previous Meetings

February 13th **Get Together.** Although there were only a few Members could attend our first meeting of the New year, we were an enthusiastic group and we took the opportunity to catch up with each other after the long break. Wine and nibbles were served so that we could celebrate the New Year in style

March 13th **Name the baby.** We had a very lively and amusing meeting, where members brought photos of themselves as small children so that we could name the child. We all found it very difficult to put a name to the child. However, we can say that all the Ladies of Preston were extremely beautiful children.

The Preston Social Club. I am hoping to arrange some interesting trips during the course of 2017. If anyone has any brilliant ideas for visits, please do let me know.

Contact Anne Springall on 01787 247156 or email annespringall@gmail.com for more information about any of our meetings

Topical Tea and Controversial Coffee



Sounds a bit intense but we have a really great time putting the world to rights and sharing our opinions and interests over a snack. A good laugh is the best medicine they say, whoever they is. Well our health certainly benefits that way because we have lots of laughter doses. So, if you feel like having your say on a range of issues, now's your chance, especially if you are thinking outside the box. Come and give it a go. It is always **Thursday 10.00 to 12.00 at Hatherley Cottage**, or come and leave as you wish. Sometimes we are away so give us a call to check just in case **Judy and Chris 01787 247515**.

Giving it up for Lent?

A tradition dating from the 7th century. Did you give up something? Perhaps chocolate, cakes or seeing the Mother-in-law! Often related to eating or not eating something why do we do it; perhaps some thing Mum told us or just a tradition like slimming from 1 January every year in a vain attempt to keep the flab at bay? A lot of it seems aimed at the body. A bit futile really because the wrinkles when they come cannot be held back as Canute realised facing the waves on a rising tide. Did you manage to do it for 40 days? This was to correspond to Christ's 40 day fast after being tempted by the Devil? At least there was a purpose in that and perhaps you 'giver-ups' did not realise the significance.

Much as we love our bodies and go to great lengths to nourish and maintain them its all a waste of time. That bag of chemicals we all think so much of is eventually destined for the scrap heap. **But** that body also holds your soul or immortal bit which is able to go on to greater things if you nourish it. Seems a pity to let it go for scrap as well when it could have a bright future. Last time mention was made about 'being born again' which struck a chord with some folk. If you would like to hear more please come to one of our discussion groups at Hatherley Cottage in the Street on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 4pm in time for tea. You would be very welcome and it would be a shame to say 'you missed the boat'.

Phone Judy or Chris 247515 just to make sure we are here.

Book Club

In March, we all met at Anne Springall's to discuss '**1984**' by **George Orwell**. Much discussion ensued! Considering that he wrote this controversial book way back in 1947 just after WW2, it contained chilling predictions and thoughts which sounded inconceivable then, we all found it eerily accurate in some aspects of modern day life of 2017. Our next choice is '**His Bloody Project**' by **Roddie Macrae Burnet**; shortlisted for the Man Booker last year, it is a work of fiction based on family research he made of events in the 19th Century. For more information about the date or if you feel you want to join our happy group of readers, please email:

Caroline Gove THOSEGOVES@aol.com

The Art Group

Runs term times at 10am on Mondays in the Village Hall.

We currently have twelve members and have room for one or two more if anyone is interested. The cost for this term is £40. During the term we will be having a number of lessons with our tutor Mossy Kennedy, so beginners can be assured of good instruction and advice. It is a very informal and friendly group and you are assured of a warm welcome.



Anyone interested & for more details about term dates, please contact either

Judy Legg on 01787 24751

Jim Wilkins on 01787 248233

Lavenham & District Gardening Club

As you can tell from the above full title, this is very much 'the Club' covering this immediate area! Our numbers are increasing, which is a wonderful positive sign and possibly due to the programme of interesting speakers & also social events: we have visits to gardens either by car or coach which we manage to mount across the year; in



addition we find that new people join, who have recently moved to the area, as it is an excellent way to 'extend the social circle' which can otherwise prove challenging. With a subscription of just £8 pa and meeting fee of only £2, which includes refreshments and a raffle ticket, it's reasonable too.

Visitors are always welcome to come and try us out! We meet at Lavenham Village Hall on the last Tuesday of the month, starting at 7.30pm - but not in August or

December.

Contact **Michael Warner on 01787-247615.**

PICTURE THIS!

We welcome any photos you have, taken in strange/exotic/unusual locations, carrying your copy of the Preston Parish Paper.

We would also love to hear from any villagers who have news, musings, accounts of events etc, for inclusion in future editions of the PPP.

Email to **pstmppaper@gmail.com**

Brent Eleigh Village Hall

Hall Bookings and Equipment Hiring

Both halls are looking really great now that the refurbishment project is complete and we are getting lots of appreciative comments, and increasing bookings, for children's parties, special anniversary lunches and other celebrations, from the surrounding district; our hire charges are very reasonable and include use of the 2 halls, good chairs, sturdy tables, kitchen, full set of crockery, cutlery, etc.- even heating! The floors have been stripped and repolished too & we now use regular professional cleaners.

We are also happy to hire out tables, chairs (separate sets for inside or outside), crockery, cutlery, water urns, etc if you are hosting an event at home or elsewhere. DIY collection and return. Please contact Debbie Davis on 01787-247371.

Our **Spring Quiz** date had to be cancelled due to a clash of date for our 'unique' Quizmaster; however, inter village rivalry is likely to be resumed on a date in May which is currently being sorted out, to avoid the rash of Bank Holidays that occur at each end of that month; we will be in touch with the 'regular table organisers' as soon as possible. And we will be holding another Quiz in the Autumn, probably mid November. These are very popular, and more tables may become available to book (usually 8 per table).



One very important date that should be put in your diary right now though, is **Saturday 1st July**, when it is the famous "**Brent Eleigh Country Hoedown**" starting at 1pm through to 5pm; we have booked the terrific '*Fairgreen*' live ceilidh band, who will be sure to get feet tapping, and a great atmosphere going; also a BBQ with local meats (and veg option naturally); a Licensed Bar; a wondrous Raffle; bottle Tombola; a special family trail; strawberry meringue stall; Devonshire teas; garden plants, cakes, and produce stall; other 'pop up' stalls; and we hope to have a large indoor model railway as well! Please note that it is **FREE ENTRY** - so bring yourselves and your family and have lots of fun. All welcome, look out for advertising nearer the time. All enquiries to Miranda Elgar on 07401242179, or myself, Michael Warner at Michael.warner13@btinternet.com

FRIENDS OF LAVENHAM AIRFIELD

COMMEMORATING THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF
THE 487TH BG, 8TH USAAF



Vintage 1940s Commemorative Event in Lavenham 19-22 May 2017

In spring 2017 Lavenham will host a wonderful weekend celebrating all things 1940s. Newly formed local group, Friends of Lavenham Airfield have joined forces with vintage events group, The Baker Boy Collective, to host a series of 1940s events to commemorate the 75th anniversary of US Forces starting to arrive in the East of England in support of World War II.

The events will raise money to support Lavenham Pre-school's new building project and the Suffolk division of SSAFA – the armed forces charity.

Over 19th – 22nd May 2017 many events will take place, including:

- A memorial service in Lavenham Church at 10am on Friday 19th May
- A 1940s swing dance at Lavenham Village Hall
- Vintage Afternoon Tea at The Swan at Lavenham
- Airfield Walk organised by Lavenham Tourist Information Centre
- A history talk about the 487th Bombardment Group, 8th USAAF (United States Army Air Force) – tickets available from Lavenham Tourist Information Centre

For further details, please call Jane on 07787 426371 or email:

FriendsOfLavenhamAirfield@outlook.com

Alternatively, The Swan have some details on their website: <http://theswanatlavenham.co.uk/explore/vintage-weekend/>

Terri and Roger Willmott (Laurel Cottage) are pleased to announce the arrival of their second grandchild, Amber Elizabeth; born on 23 February last, weighing just under 8lbs to proud parents Jonathan & Jane Willmott, making a lovely sister for Lauren.

Annual Parish Assembly.

This will take place on 25th April in the Village Hall. Starting at 7.30pm. All welcome and refreshments will be served. We have a Guest Speaker from the Emergency Planning Team at Suffolk County Council, which may be helpful at a time when the Parish Council is drafting its Emergency Plan for the Village.



VILLAGE FETE



**With BBQ & Dog Show
Saturday 1st July 2-5pm**



The Village Hall Committee invites you
to our Summer Fete

Starts at 2pm when our famous BBQ will be ready. Tea, coffee & cakes later in the afternoon. Oh and a bar - all afternoon!

Dog show starting at 3pm - classes to detailed in the next issue.
Live music. Traditional games for all the family.

What else do you need for a great afternoon out!?

Entry £1 for adults, accompanied children free



St Peter and St Paul, Lavenham

The Parishes of **Lavenham** with



St Mary the Virgin, Preston St Mary

Telling the Easter Story through art

It's the story at the heart of the Christian faith and now it is being told in an artistic way and put on show in Lavenham.

The Parishes of Lavenham with Preston St Mary are launching their first ever **EASTER ART TRAIL** which will see over 50 pictures on display in Lavenham for people to enjoy. The launch will take place at The Angel Hotel on 31st March with grateful thanks to the new owner, John Raynes, who will be providing refreshments.

Pictures will be framed and exhibited in nearly all the shops and restaurants in Lavenham and people will be able to collect a special trail map and search out the colourful works of art.



Whilst following the trail people will be asked to vote for their favourite entries.

The trail runs from 1st to 13th April inclusive. Trail maps can be obtained from A J Heeks the Grocers, Lavenham Church, The Tourist Information Office, The Guildhall and the Library. Voting boxes can be found in these locations.

All art will then be exhibited for one week in Lavenham church from 15th April – 22nd April.

The two categories receiving the highest number of votes will win prizes and in addition, their work will be used to create greeting cards to be sold in the church shop to raise funds for Lavenham pre-school.

People who vote will also go into a draw for prizes.

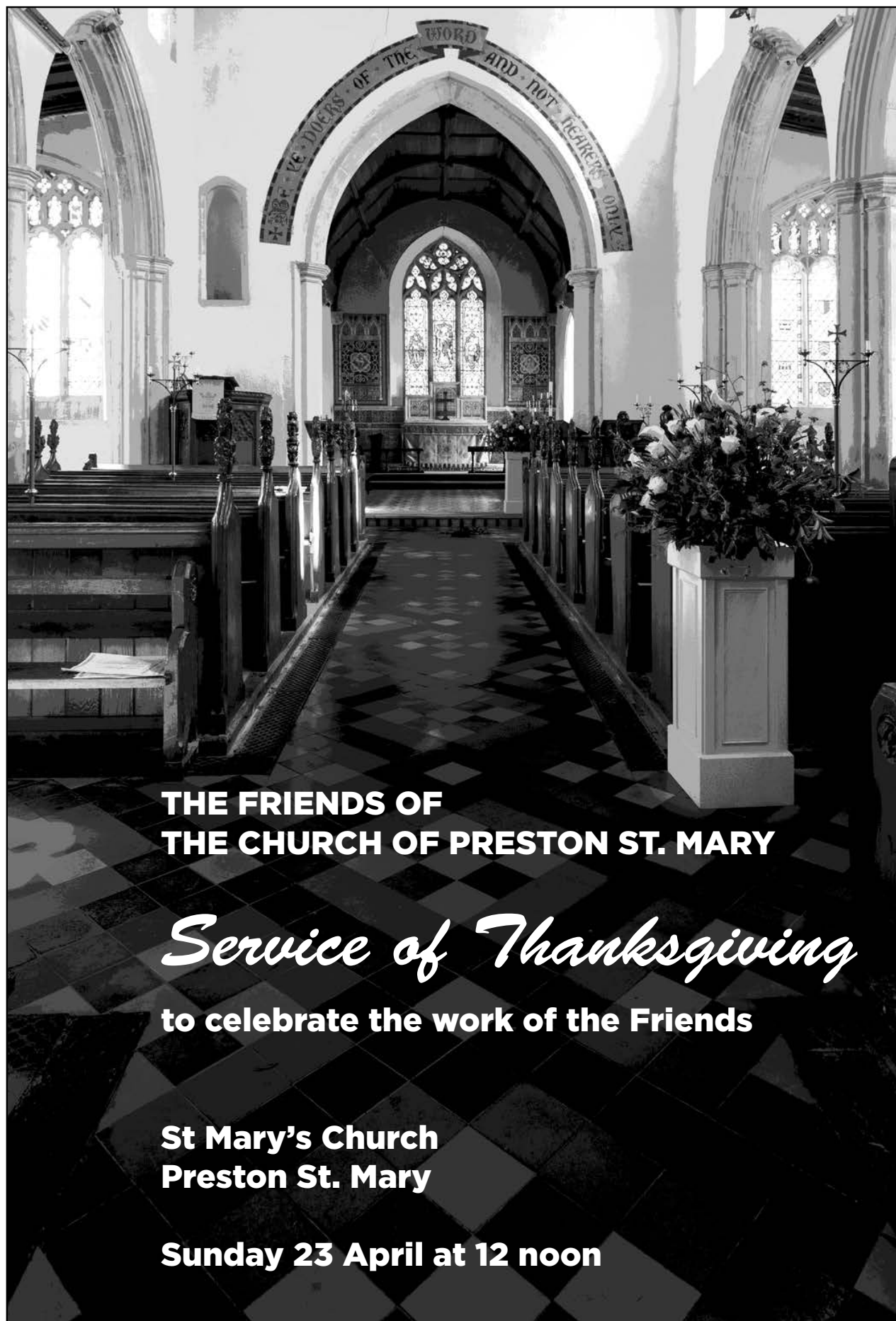
The Rev'd Stephen Earl said: *"This is a community event to bring all ages together in a creative and fun way. It's also a good opportunity for the Easter message to reach everyone, whether artist, hosting business or indeed the people following the trail."*

We really want to encourage everyone to join in and be a part of this creative initiative!"

For further information please contact: Lynda Sebbage

Telephone: 01787 313769 or 07870640074

Email: lynda@sebbage.com



**THE FRIENDS OF
THE CHURCH OF PRESTON ST. MARY**

Service of Thanksgiving

to celebrate the work of the Friends

**St Mary's Church
Preston St. Mary**

Sunday 23 April at 12 noon



The Six Bells

Preston St Mary

Easter Weekend



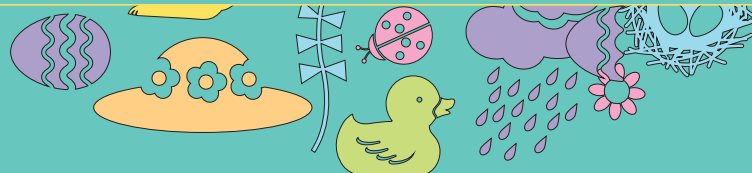
Traditional Roasts & Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday 16th - Monday 17th April



Easter Opening Times

Friday 14th - Midday - 11pm
Saturday 15th - Midday - 11pm
Sunday 16th - Midday - 11pm
Monday 17th - Midday - 8pm



THE STREET PRESTON ST MARY SUFFOLK CO10 9NG
(THREE MILES FROM LAVENHAM)

01787 247 440 [THESIXBELLSPRESTON.COM](http://thesixbellspreston.com)

[f/SixBells](https://www.facebook.com/SixBells) [@The_Six_Bells](https://twitter.com/The_Six_Bells)

etmgroup.co.uk

PRESTON ST MARY PCC

Welcome all parishioners and friends to our

ROGATION SERVICE

**12 Noon Sunday 21st May'17
IN PRIORY BARN**

Guest Preacher: The Ven. John Cox
Archdeacon Emeritus

**Followed by a farm walk with
BLESSING OF THE
CROPS**

at Priory Farm

By kind permission of Mr & Mrs Alan Luck

**Concluding with a
Celebration Barbeque Lunch**

All are Welcome!

To book your lunch please call

An Unusual Visitor to Preston St Mary



So many pheasants wander around the countryside here in West Suffolk that we take little notice of them except to admire their plumage and remark on how delicious their meat is but when Mr Reeves walked into our lives, here was something different.

We had never seen a pheasant quite like him before with his beautiful golden and speckled black and white feathers and enormously long tail which can grow up to three feet. He comes every day now, for some corn and walks with us round the garden, adapting his pace to ours.

We thought at first he was a golden pheasant but having looked them up found him to be a Reeves Pheasant, named after the British naturalist John Reeves who brought them to Europe from China in 1831.

They have been introduced for sport in several countries but only on a small scale and are classed as Vulnerable on the IUCN List of threatened species as it is thought that only around 2000 birds remain in the wild.

Our pheasant must have come from a collector or from a breeder of pheasants but he doesn't seem to want to go home and a smaller one with 2 females has appeared once only so far.

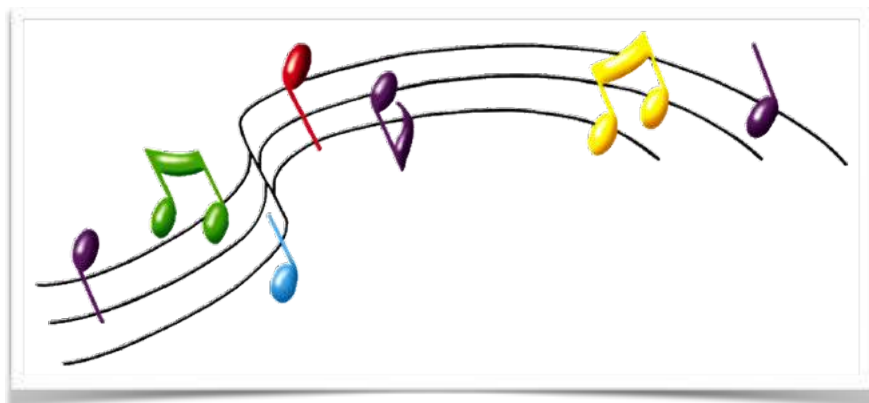
Where have they come from? Does anyone know?

Janet Martin

Wot Larks!

**A Charity Concert in Holy Trinity Church,
Long Melford**

Saturday 8th April at 7.00 pm



Four professional singers will perform a selection of favourites from the musicals, Gilbert & Sullivan and opera. The soprano is Lyn Davis, who lives at Preston St Mary near Lavenham and sings in the church choir at Lavenham. Lyn enthuses about the evening, "I am delighted that we have been able to gather this group of my friends and colleagues to sing together for this concert. We have created a programme of numbers such as 'Nessun Dorma', 'The Pearl Fishers' Duet' and 'One Fine Day' that we thoroughly enjoy singing and that we're sure the audience will enjoy too.

"I also love the way in which the church will be lit mainly by candlelight for the concert. The 7 pm start, just before sunset, has been decided so that the ambiance within the church will be transformed as twilight turns to darkness outside. I'm really looking forward to the evening, which, especially with the G & S numbers, promises to be great fun."

Scutchers Restaurant, John Coleman Butchers and the NFU Mutual have all offered tremendous support to the concert, which is being organised to raise funds for the Farming Community Network, a charity that provides pastoral and practical help to farmers who have no-one else to turn to when things go horribly wrong.

Tickets are £15, including light refreshments during the interval, and are available from the **Theatre Royal Box Office Tel: 01284 769505**
or e-mail: booking@theatreroyal.org

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Ring 01787 247 726 or e-mail Hua@lavenhamphysio.co.uk to book an initial appointment. For more information, see www.LavenhamPhysio.co.uk

April & May 2017

HOLY WEEK & EASTER

MON, TUES, WEDS 7PM AT THE CATHEDRAL, BURY ST EDMUNDS

SPEAKER: CANON ANGELA TILBY, WRITER, BROADCASTER, PRIEST



EASTER ART TRAIL around Lavenham 1st - 13th April

Details & maps from Tourist Information, the Guildhall, & Heeks

Wednesday 12th April 10am Holy Communion Lavenham

Maundy Thursday 13th April 10am-12.30pm Children's Easter Craft Day
Salvation Army Hall Lavenham

7.30pm Holy Communion
with symbolic washing of feet (*optional*) Lavenham

Good Friday 14th April 12pm 'People's Passion' (lay led) Preston St Mary
2pm 'Final Hour' Devotional Service Lavenham
7pm Stainer's Crucifixion Lavenham

Easter Eve, 15th April EASTER ART TRAIL display in church Lavenham
until 22nd April



Easter Sunday, 16th April 6.30am 'Sunrise' Eucharist Preston St Mary
followed by bacon butties & Bucks Fizz in church

8am Holy Communion (BCP) Lavenham

10.15am Parish Communion Lavenham
followed by Easter Egg Hunt for children



The Lord is risen indeed!

Diabetes care in Suffolk: Do you know your foot health risk?

Healthwatch Suffolk is putting feet in focus with the launch of its latest research report. It has worked closely with a leading clinician to explore the views of local patients about their experiences of accessing diabetic foot care in the county. Figures from Diabetes UK indicate that over 100 diabetes-related foot amputations occur every week in England. Patients with diabetes should receive an annual foot examination to determine whether their foot sensation is intact and their blood supply to the feet is good but this does not always happen.

Key findings:

- 32% of the respondents stated that they were not told about their risk of developing a diabetic foot problem in the future during their last appointment.
- 43% of respondents were not told what they should do if a new foot problem had developed.
- 28% of respondents said they were not given advice about how to look after their feet.

Three things that people said could be improved about their care:

1. Ensuring people are informed about the importance of maintaining foot health and their risk of developing complications.
2. Improving the availability of information regarding foot health.
3. Offer more regular foot health checks.

An early outcome from the project will see patients across the East of England receiving a new information card following their annual health check. The passport, which will be roughly the size of a bank card, will be carried by patients at all times and include information about what to look for in terms of their foot health and who they should contact if they have concerns.

For more information about this work and how you can make a difference to local NHS and social care services in the county, please visit www.healthwatchsuffolk.co.uk, call 01449 703949 or email info@healthwatchsuffolk.co.uk

Preston St Mary Parochial Church Council presents


The Swyft Singers

in a concert of

Midsummer Music

Unaccompanied sacred and secular choral works by composers from Palestrina to Vaughan Williams and arrangements of folk songs and spirituals sung by this newly formed local group brought together by Glynis Huggett

Preston St Mary Church
Saturday June 24th at 7.30pm

Tickets £10 to include wine and canapés,
available in advance (tel. 01449 741 389) and on the door

All proceeds to Church Funds

Preview St Mary Newsletter Amended Advertising Charges from July 2016

ONE-OFF ADVERTISEMENTS:

Local events	free of charge
Full page advertisements for locals	£ 9.00
Full page advertisements Non locals	£18.00

FOR 6 ISSUES:

Local Organisations:

Third of Page	£ 9.00
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Full Page	£36. 00

Non Local Organisations:

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Full page	£54. 00

Issues: Feb/Mar: Apr/May: Jun/July: Aug/Sept: Oct/Nov: Dec/Jan:

Editor: pstmpaper@gmail.com

Copy dates: At least one month prior to issue date.

Beauty by Megan

Megan is a mobile Beauty Therapist with over 10 year's experience in the Beauty Industry, offering professional and thorough treatments in the comfort & convenience of your own home. As an alternative to home treatments, I also have a treatment room within Preston St Mary, 3 miles from Lavenham with off road parking! I use and stock leading professional beauty products such as **Dermalogica & Jessica**

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Preston St Mary Parish Council

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**Minutes of a Meeting of Preston St Mary Parish Council
held at 7.30 p.m. on Tuesday 28 March 2017 in the Village Hall**

Present: - Councillors K. McGrory; P.Bisson; K. Hanlon; R. Bardzinski
Cllr R.Martin arrived later during the Meeting (at Item 8 of the Agenda).
County Councillor Jenny Antill; Nicola Smith-Parish Clerk; 3 Members of the Public
District Councillor Clive Arthey sent his apologies. He was at another Meeting and
may not get to Preston St Mary before the end of the Meeting. The Clerk had the
District Councillors' report to read out to the Meeting.

1. Apologies

- i. Cllr Luck had sent his apologies. He was unable to attend due to work commitments;
- ii. All Cllrs consented to accept Cllr Luck's apology.

2. To receive Members' Declarations of Interest

- i. No disclosures of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests for the Agenda under discussions;
- ii. No gifts of hospitality received;
- iii. No requests for dispensation for pecuniary interests – not applicable for the Agenda under discussion.

3. Minutes of Meeting: All Cllrs confirmed that they read through the draft Minutes of 24 January 2017 and agree them to be a true and accurate record. Chairman signed and dated the Minutes.

4. County Councillor, Mrs Jenny Antill's report:

The council is very quiet now as we are into the moratorium period ahead of the election on 4th May.

Budget 2017/18

This was passed by the Council on 9th February. The SCC component of the Council tax bill will rise by 3%, which represents the Government levy specifically to pay for Social Care. This is lower than the 5% increase being imposed by many councils in England, and the 4% national average.

Annual Public Health Report.

Suffolk's Director of Public Health released his annual report on 26 January 2017 setting an ambition to improve mental health services in Suffolk over the next 10 years. An estimated 1 in 100 people are affected by severe mental ill health in Suffolk. The report, lists seven recommendations to promote good mental health and reduce demand in Suffolk over the next five to 10 years. The report is divided into sections that correspond with different stages in people's lives, from pre-birth children to older people's mental health. It recognises that good mental health is a fundamental human

right for everyone and that good mental health is essential for good physical health, and vice versa.

School Funding

At first sight Suffolk appeared to be one of the winners under new arrangements for school funding recently announced by the Government. Suffolk schools will receive 2% more than before. However this still means that the County's schools will receive considerably less than schools in other parts of the country, and in real terms (taking inflation into account) there will actually be little change from the previous unacceptable situation. The Cabinet Member for Education Gordon Jones has written to complain about the settlement to the Secretary of State, as have head teachers in the County.

Preston St Mary

I know that the Clerk has been in touch with highways regarding the chevrons on Lavenham Road and I understand that this is now included in the forward schedule of works.

This will be my last meeting as your county councillor. I have very much enjoyed representing Preston, and have been very pleased to be able to find some projects in the village for locality money over the past four years. I would like to thank the Parish Council and the clerk for their kindness and support over the past four years and wish you and all the residents of Preston the very best for the future.

5. District Councillor, Mr Clive Arthey's report:

New Chief Executive.

Message from Arthur Charvonia in January Newsletter.

Accommodation Review.

The move to the Suffolk County Council headquarters building, Endeavour House in

Ipswich, has been confirmed for August. Unfortunately, there will only be two other 'public access points' for council services, in Stowmarket (MSDC) and Sudbury (BDC). I had been hopeful of a presence in Hadleigh where there are still no firm proposals for the future of the Corks Lane offices.

Waste and Recycling.

An increase in fly-tipping nationally has been in the news recently. Following last year's changes at HWRCs we have been monitoring the situation in Suffolk and there does not appear to be a significant change overall. However, there are some 'hotspots' where there is a problem, and in February we successfully prosecuted a fly-tipper who received fines and costs of over £2,000. Details are in the March Newsletter.

Devolution.

A deal for Suffolk alone has been put on hold.

District Electoral Review.

As I have mentioned at previous meetings, the first stage is to establish the number of councillors for the district. Babergh has asked for a reduction from 43 councillors down to 31. Following the Boundary Commission's confirmation of Council size, the second stage looking at ward boundaries will start in May. One of the factors taken into consideration when asking for a reduction in councillors was the change in governance arrangements to a 'cabinet' chosen by the leader, in place of the current committee system.

2017-18 Council Tax

Increase of +3.4% in Babergh's element, Suffolk Police +2%, SCC +3%. In Preston St. Mary there has been a 5.4% increase in Tax Base, and a 9.3% increase in precept, resulting in the parish element increasing by around 3.5%.

6. Public Forum:

Parishioner raised concern that Busted Mead had put in an application to put a driveway across the Village Green. The Clerk confirmed that she had not received any details of such an application to date, but should that transpire then she would arrange an Additional Meeting of the Parish Council.

7. Correspondence: (General correspondence had circulated by email. At the time of the Meeting there were no matters arising from correspondence).

8. Clerk's Report

- i. to consider schedule of items approved and awaiting authorisation;

<u>Receipts since 22.01.17</u>		0.00
<u>Cheques awaiting reconciliation/payment</u>		
100542	N Smith (reimbursement of expenses)	38.34
100543	N Smith (Clerk's Salary)	688.01
100544	HMRC	178.40
100545	Newsletter Printing	96.96
100546	Hire of Village Hall	86.25
100547	Grant – Village Hall (2 nd instalment)	250.00
100548	Grant – PCC (2 nd instalment)	400.00
		1737.96

- ii. To receive a report on the Council's financial position;

Summary:

Community Account	5923.58
Business Saver Account	500.90
Receipts since 01.09.16	<u>0.00</u>
	6424.48
Deduct cheques awaiting reconciliation/payment	<u>1737.96</u>
	4686.52
(Total includes Transparency Funding of £1645)	<u>1645.00</u>
	3041.52

Chair asked whether it would be possible to purchase a projector from the Transparency Grant. Clerk will look into this and report back.

- iii. To receive an update on matters arising from Meeting on 24th January 2017.

For full version please see Village Website at prestonstmary.suffolk.cloud

Clerk went through matters arising as follows:-

Parishioner has expressed interest in being co-opted;

Cllr Hanlon has now attended the New Councillor course at SALC;

Precept has been submitted, and receipt acknowledge. First payment due April;

Emergency Plan Questionnaire has been delivered to households.

Clerk will aim to have a first draft for May Meeting;

Chevrons at Money Hole Corner. SCC agreed these will be put in, awaiting timescale.

Parking on Preston Road, Lavenham – Clerk has written to Lavenham PC and to SCC on this matter.

Mr Robyn Lloyd Hughes will speak with Mr Jack Tasker about whether they are able to take over the running of the PPP together.

9. To consider and approve reviewed Standing Orders

Councillors confirmed that they had received ahead of the Meeting the draft revised Standing Orders. Cllr Bisson proposed that the revised Standing Orders be adopted by the Parish Council with immediate effect. Cllr Hanlon seconded. All Cllrs present agreed. Motion carried.

10. To appoint a Vice Chairman

Discussion took place as to why it would be beneficial to have a Vice Chairman in post. Cllr Bardzinski put himself forward for this post. Cllr Hanlon supported this proposal. Cllr Martin seconded it. All Cllrs present agreed. Cllr Bardzinski signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office Form as Vice Chairman.

11. Co-option

Cllr McGrory had been contacted by Mr Jack Tasker who expressed an interest in being co-opted onto the Parish Council. Mr Tasker had been away on holiday and unfortunately had not been able to get to this evenings Meeting. Co-option would be considered at the next Parish Council Meeting.

12. Parish Councillor's Reports

Cllr Bisson and Cllr Martin both raised the matter of the hedge being removed at Busted Mead. It had long been a hedge that birds nested in. Clerk advised Councillors that under section 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 it is an offence to intentionally take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird. However, there was no evidence to suggest that this had happened when the hedge at Busted Mead was removed. Legislation also sets out periods of time throughout the year that hedges cannot be removed as it is likely that birds will have started nesting in them. This time period was generally between 1st March – 31st July (but some specific species will breed throughout August and September). There was no evidence to indicate that the hedge had been removed after the 1st March and therefore no matter to pursue.

Cllrs also raised concern over the green strip of grass that had been cordoned off between the hedge that had been removed and the concrete footpath. Cllr Martin had contacted the previous owner and spoken with neighbours and they had confirmed that the small strip of green grass between where the hedge was and the concrete path belongs to the property. The boundary stops at the concrete path. This went back historically to when there was a ditch there.

Cllrs also had concerns about the post and plastic fencing that was in place at the moment. Clerk indicated that this was possibly better than someone falling over what are quite large stumps from where the hedge was removed. Cllrs agreed.

Cllr Bisson reported that Mr Desmond Gay would like to replace the old bench by the phone box with a new bench with a dedication on it. Clerk asked if Mr Gay could forward details to her and Clerk will then contact County Council on how to proceed.

Cllr Hanlon reported that she had noted a footpath sign that was down. She would check on her map which footpath it was and report it to SCC.

13. Planning Matters

- i. Application No: B/17/00220 – Ghost Pond Barn, Rookwood Lane, Preston St Mary. Application under section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act (1990) to remove condition 3 attached to B/05/01242/FUL (Conversion and extension of agricultural building to form 1 No. unit of holiday accommodation).

All Cllrs agreed that they had no objections.

Next Meeting: 25th April 2017 (Annual Assembly)

