

NOUSDEN NEWSLETTER



Photo Courtesy of Celia Holt

Useful Telephone Numbers

Emergency.....	999
Suffolk Police (non urgent).....	101
Crime Stoppers.....	0800 555 111
Electricity Emergency.....	08007 838 838
Anglian Water Emergency.....	0800 145 145
Power Cut	0800 3163105
Power Cut From mobile.....	0333 3232105
West Suffolk Council.....	01284 763233
Suffolk County Council.....	0345 6066067
Wickhambrook Surgery:	
Appointments.....	01440 820140
Repeat Prescriptions.....	01440 823801
Ousden Parish Council	
Clerk—Ms Joanne Kirk.....	07880 686069
	ousdenparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk
	www.ousden.onesuffolk.net
Ousden News Editor..	ousdennews@outlook.com
Church Wardens:	
Nicola Nunn.....	01638 500237
Trevor Harris	
Rev Eve Bell.....	07815 441304
Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator:	
Helen Gale.....	07971 282545
Wickhambrook Stores.....	01440 820220
Garage.....	01638 500080
Bowls Club.....	01638 500438
Newspaper Deliveries.....	01440 820969
The Fox.....	01638 500740

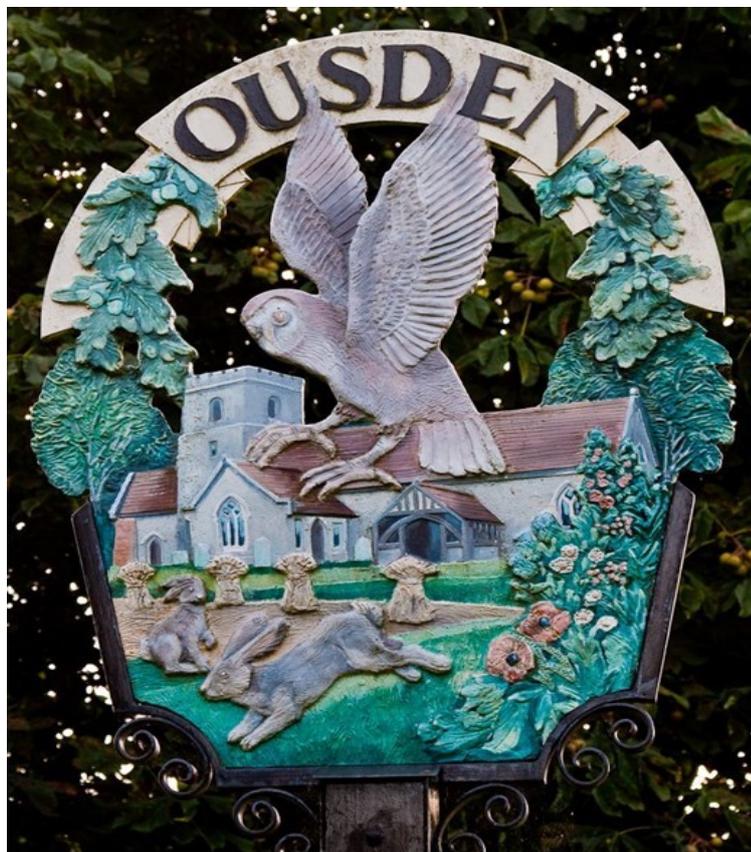
Village Hall

Bookings.....	01638 500329
Website... http://www.ousdenvillagehall.org.uk	
Fundraising App:	
https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/ousdenvillagehallandplayingfield	

Nearest Defibrillator

Outside The Fox Public House (Postcode: CB8 8TR / What3Words: dandelions.takers.dignify)
In an emergency, ring 999, the ambulance service will give you an access code if required.

Previous editions of Ousden Newsletter can be found on the Parish Council website www.ousden.onesuffolk.net



Ousden Parish Council

A meeting of Ousden Parish Council took place on 10th December 2024. County Councillor Bobby Bennett and District Councillor Mike Chester attended the meeting along with two members of the public.

Budget 2025-26

Ousden Parish Council approved its budget for 2025/26. The precept request for 2025/26 will be £11,082. The parish council element for a band D household will be £81.20 per annum, an increase from £77.53 which equates to £4.75 per annum per band D household, an increase of 4.75%.

County Councillor's Report.

County Councillor Bobby Bennett spoke about the following:

- Suffolk County Council's pothole prevention programme. Additional funding has been made available to try and get ahead this winter. They are using new technology called a dragon patcher which fills potholes more quickly. They are reliant on people reporting potholes online using Suffolk County Council's online Highways Reporting Tool <https://highwaysreporting.suffolk.gov.uk> Flooding should also be reported online.
- Suffolk County Council is consulting on its budget.
- The Special Education Needs provision in Suffolk is improving but there is still a long way to go.

District Councillor's Report.

District Councillor Mike Chester's report is available on the Ousden Parish Council website at <https://ousden.onesuffolk.net/parish-council/meetings/meetings-reports/10th-december-2024/>

Clr Chester also spoke about the following:

- Devolution. The new Government wants to simplify local government and is looking into the possibility of establishing unitary authorities.
- West Suffolk Council is also setting its budget at the moment. They are heading towards a balanced budget but there may be a looming deficit in 8-10 years.
- There was a Corporate Peer Review recently. West Suffolk Council was given a clean bill of health.
- There are plans to change bin collections in the next couple of years. Glass will be included in the bin collections.

Ousden Parish Council regularly receives requests for a donation from charities. Councillors agreed to make a donation to West Suffolk Citizen's Advice who are supporting people following the removal of the winter fuel payment for people not in receipt of pension credit, and to Headway Suffolk which supports people with brain injuries.

Surviving Winter Campaign

Suffolk Community Foundation Surviving Winter Campaign has been launched. This funding is to help vulnerable older people stay warm and well when the cold weather hits. The campaign is now in its 14th year and funding can provide a lifeline for many people by helping them to stay safe and healthy in their own homes as the weather turns colder.

- Individuals can apply for support through this fund if they meet the following criteria:
- Aged 66 plus
- Not on pension credit
- Maximum income £20k individual and £24k couple
- Maximum savings £5,000
- Live in Suffolk

Individuals wanting to apply should contact the charitable provider administering the

payments: For West Suffolk this is Gatehouse
Caring: survivingwinter@gatehouse.org.uk or telephone: 01284 703835 or for further details please visit the Suffolk Community Foundation website: [Surviving Winter Appeal - Suffolk Community Foundation](#)

Coffee Mornings at the Fox

Sue holds Village coffee mornings at the pub on the first Thursday of the month. Please come along and support this monthly event....enjoy a cup of tea or coffee, slice of delicious home made cake and a chat in front of the log burner.



The Fox Inn
Ousden

Quiz Nights
Bingo
Coffee Mornings

Opening Times

Monday – Sunday
12.00pm – 11.00pm

Meals Served

Wednesday, Thursday
Friday & Saturday
12.00pm—8.00pm

Sunday Roast
12.00pm—8.00pm

Tel: 01638 500740





Ousden Village Hall & Playing Field

It was great to see some of you at the Christmas Fair in December. We were able to raise approximately £600 towards our funds and it was another opportunity for villagers to meet up. Thank you to all stall holders and to those of you who helped organise the event. During this quiet time in winter, the committee has been meeting as usual, Yoga meets on Wednesdays at 9.15am and Bowls on Monday evenings. We also hosted a very enjoyable Winter Solstice Yoga and meditation evening, with over 20 participants.

We've been busy creating our new website www.ousdenvillageHall.org.uk where you can see our events and activities and details for hiring the facility, including making an online booking!

For those new to the village we are in the process of actively fundraising for our new village hall for which we have already gained planning permission and through a small team of volunteers we are edging towards the build phase. We need funds of around 50% (£300k) to allow us to start looking for match funding donations and to make a start on the new building (c£600k).

There are many ways to help and support; did you know you can donate through the website, we are very grateful to those who have already made generous donations through this easy-to-use link.

You may like to join the Ousden Village Hall Lottery (a modest, £1 a week), details are on the website. It is drawn four times a year at The Fox pub., next draw is 1st week of April.

You will have received leaflets through the door inviting you to events and to support our fundraising through the [@easyfunding.org.uk](https://www.easyfunding.org.uk) app, it is very easy to download and use, it will enable you to support us regularly over the next year or two.

The site allows you to nominate 'Ousden Village Hall and playing fields' to receive from the retailer a % of money spent online, you

place an order with the retailer via the app at no cost to you. If you already buy your groceries through stores such as M&S, Tesco, Sainsburys, Waitrose or visit John Lewis, Boots and holiday companies such as booking.com and Tui, Booking.com and others such as BT, EE, Virgin, Sky Vodafone, RAC... you could be supporting us at no extra cost to you, please give it a go.

Looking ahead, our playing field is home to the Lidgate and Ousden Village Cricket club, they are desperate for new members to join the team before the season begins in April/May. Unless more players can come forward, the club may fold which will be a terrible loss to ours and the wider community. The club would appreciate if you can spread this message far and wide, all welcome, try twisting a few arms when you're able. As new families come to live in the village it's a wonderful way to meet others in our small community.

If you have walked across the playing field recently you may have noticed a new memorial bench which was installed near the oak trees in early January. It was bequeathed in remembrance of Thelma and Peter Pettitt who lived in the village for many years.

A proposed future event for the Spring is a Race Night so look out for more details later if you're interested because this is always a popular evening. There are also plans for a summer fete this year.

Happy New Year from all of us at the Village Hall.

Chris Ingham & Celia Holt

**Follow us on Facebook & Instagram
for regular updates**



<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/ousdenvillagehallandplayingfield>

**VILLAGE HALL LOTTERY
A CHANCE TO WIN & HELP FUND THE NEW
VILLAGE HALL**

Contact Jessamy Saltmarsh:
jessamy.saltmarsh194@btinternet.com or
01638500816 for details

You might be lucky!

WORDSEARCH

X	F	R	O	N	T	P	D	P	M	D	S	E
S	B	C	K	A	V	H	W	A	K	H	T	F
I	S	J	P	Y	G	A	M	R	N	O	D	S
G	L	V	R	F	S	L	D	K	C	L	R	A
N	D	I	O	A	O	L	I	E	D	L	C	B
J	A	C	C	B	M	X	V	F	A	A	D	A
D	V	A	K	N	M	O	W	Z	L	T	N	N
S	D	R	A	G	D	H	J	K	T	S	C	R
Q	W	A	L	R	T	Y	A	B	P	N	S	A
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Z	X	C	V	Y	R	O	T	C	E	R	B	S
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SIGN
HALL
FOX
PARK
DUNSTALL
FRONT
LORDS
DAIRY
ROCKALL
RECTORY
VICARAGE
ST BARNABAS
ST PETERS
DOVECOTE



St Peter's & St Barnabas

Carol Service

We held a lovely Carols by Candlelight service in December. Fantastic singing followed by mulled wine and mince pies to get everybody into the festive spirit. Thank you to all the ladies who provided flower arrangements and helped to clean and prepare the Church for the Service - it looked beautiful.

Christmas Fair

We raised a whopping £170.00 from the cake stall at the Village Hall Christmas Fair. A huge thankyou to Shirley for helping to organise and everybody who baked delicious cakes and treats - it was a complete sellout!

Thank you also to Trevor & Belinda for manning the stall.

Village Breakfast

The popular Village Breakfast will be returning this year. We are hoping to hold it in March with the date to be decided shortly. Posters & flyers will be sent out as soon as possible.

PCC Meeting

The next PCC meeting is being held on 6th February 2025.

St Barnabas

Maintenance

St Barnabas is looking a bit sorry for itself at the moment with maintenance required on not only the fence at the front but the Chapel itself.

We are in the process of putting together a list of jobs to be carried out as a matter of urgency. If you, or you know of somebody who would like to help with any maintenance jobs please let me know as any help is gratefully received.

Garden of Remembrance

We would like to be able to offer the option of interment for cremated remains as well as burials at the Churchyard.

To enable us to do this we have to have an area of the Churchyard specifically for ashes. The proposed space will be at the rear of the Churchyard, adjacent to the Chapel and will allow for small commemorative plaques to be placed in the ground.

We have begun the planning process with the Diocese to create this Garden of Remembrance. Further updates will be provided as and when we have them.

**Trevor Harris & Nicola Nunn
Churchwardens**

St Peter's Church Services

(10.00am - Holy Communion unless otherwise stated)

2nd February	Denston
9th February	Cowlinge
16th February	OUSDEN
23rd February	Lidgate
2nd March	Stradishall
5th March	Wickhambrook - 7.00pm (Ash Wednesday)
9th March	Wickhambrook
16th March	Stansfield
23rd March	Denston
30th March	Cowlinge

Please note these are subject to change, always check the website for up to date details:
www.bansfieldbenefice.org.uk/services



LIDGATE & OUSDEN CRICKET CLUB



Do you like cricket?! Would you like to join Lidgate & Ousden Cricket Club? We are looking for new members to play and help with the running of the Club. It welcomes all-comers - age, ability, experience or where you live are no barrier to joining.

The Club started in Lidgate in 1978 and has its ground in Ousden. It is an enthusiastic supporter of friendly village cricket, with many of its dozen or so annual fixtures held against other local teams in the area.

We are at a point where several players and committee members are getting on a bit, resulting in a need for new people to join who can play and/or help with the many aspects of running a cricket club.

If you are interested, and would like to get involved, please contact us to have a chat and find out more.

John Whitefield – 07967 165043



Loft Insulation Offer gives Suffolk residents 50% off eco-friendly insulation

According to The Energy Saving Trust, an uninsulated home loses a quarter of its heat through its roof. For the second year in a row, help to afford eco-friendly loft insulation is now available for Suffolk residents.

The Suffolk Climate Change Partnership has teamed up with an insulation provider to help Suffolk residents make their homes warmer and save money on their energy bills.

Residents will receive a 50% discount off their purchase of 200mm or 370mm wide insulation rolls (up to £200) with free delivery, from High Loft, the UK's leading eco loft insulation brand.

The offer is open to anyone in Suffolk and will close once the allocated funding has been spent. Simply go to www.bit.ly/suffloft and fill in the form to receive your personalised link to order or call High Loft's insulation experts on 01706 248203 (Mon – Fri, 9am - 5pm).

Or, to find out more visit www.greensuffolk.org/at-home/funding.

WHATS ON IN OUSDEN

Dates for your Diary.....

Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 11th March

Mobile Library

15th February / 15th March / 12th April

Village Hall – 10.35am-11.05am

Church - 11.10am-11.25am

The Fox

Coffee Morning

Tea, Coffee & Homemade Cakes

Thursday 6th February

Thursday 6th March

Thursday 3rd April

-

Quiz Night

Thursday 19th December

Thursday 19th March

-

Bingo

9th & 23rd February

9th & 23rd March

-

OAP Lunch

20th February

20th March

St Peter's Church

Village Breakfast — Spring 2025

Date & further information will be posted shortly

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VILLAGE HALL LOTTERY

A CHANCE TO WIN & HELP FUND THE NEW VILLAGE HALL

Contact Jessamy Saltmarsh:
jessamy.saltmarsh194@btinternet.com or
01638500816 for details

You might be lucky!

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