

Tunstall Parish Council

Tunstall Parish Plan Questionnaire

Following the posters being shown in parts of the village, a questionnaire is soon to be delivered to all residents in the parish. As you might be aware the East Suffolk Local Plan is going to be reviewed and the District Council have now undertaken an exercise known as a Call for Sites in which it invites engagement from landowners to put forward land which might be considered for potential development, having regard to national planning policies. In parallel with this, Tunstall Parish Council wish to invite feedback from their residents. The questionnaire is your opportunity to tell us how you would like our community to develop in the future. For example, the government have announced new national housing targets of 1.5 million new homes to be completed annually. This has increased the number of dwellings East Suffolk District Council (ESDC) will need to deliver over the new Local Plan period. As of now, ESDC do not yet have a set approach on how these new homes will be distributed across the district. Tunstall has already seen new homes provided with similar schemes in the neighbouring villages of Eyke, Rendlesham and Campsea Ashe. Would some additional development of

new suitably designed dwellings be viewed positively, adding to the vibrancy and sustainability of the village or do you feel there has been enough new building in recent years? It is important that you have your say, the results of which will be forwarded to ESDC. While the results are not statutorily binding, they should help inform the planners of local opinion and potentially influence their thinking. We hope all residents will get involved. Please look out for the questionnaire.

NEIL GILBERT Chairman
Tunstall Parish Plan Steering Group.

A Polite Request

With roadside damage sadly still continuing to occur in the village by reckless driving, a polite request is made to all homeowners or occupiers that have vegetation encroaching onto footpaths and/or highways to take appropriate and safe steps to ensure that they are cut back to allow free, safe and uninterrupted passage.

Thank You

Tunstall Parish Council would like to thank those residents who came forward with various ideas in response to the question how to make the village prettier. A Steering Group has now been formed to assess the ideas and to report on an action plan.

Tunstall Grapevine

Let us know your email address and we will keep you informed of the latest news.

Tiffany Pollock
Clerk to Tunstall Parish Council
01728 688816
1 CountryLife Cottage, Orford Road,
Tunstall, Woodbridge, IP12 2JA
pcclerk@tunstall.gov.uk

Diary dates

Parish Council Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held at 6pm on Thursday 26 March at Tunstall Community Hall.

The Mobile Library

Tunstall Green:
Wednesday 4 March 10.25–10.50

Tunstall Common:
Friday 7 March 15:50-16:05

April 2026 Bulletin

Please send or give all material to the editor: Tiffany Pollock 688 816, tiffpollock@hotmail.co.uk by **15 March 2026**

Love is all around us - even for pesky squirrels

It's six months since we launched the campaign to save the church and thanks to the efforts of you in the village, we're making good headway. Though not quite so much in the churchyard where some wildlife has eaten all the crocus bulbs. The daffodils are pushing through though - a timely reminder amid all the foul weather we've had that Spring is knocking at the door.

Our very informal service for loved ones was on Sunday 15th February. It was

great to see new faces and we reflected on how good it was to celebrate love for our families and friends in this small corner of the world when elsewhere we don't always see the same. The was a convivial and warm spirit helped (no doubt by the prosecco and chocolates we shared during the service).

The next service is to celebrate Easter and the arrival of Spring on Sunday 29th March at 3pm, and we'll be doing a churchyard tidy the weekend before

(date dependent on weather) and would love your help. As always, refreshments will be provided. We've also now taken delivery of bistro tables so we can offer socials at the back of the church. We want your involvement, your suggestions, and for you to use the space for small gatherings.

As always, please contact the church secretary, Sarah, on 07900 657780 or st.michaels.tunstall@gmail.com to get involved or offer suggestions.

Tunstall BULLETIN

Number 282
March 2026

Tunstall Community Hall

The Tunstall Community Hall is a lovely venue that can be booked and used for regular club hire, private parties, wedding receptions, group gatherings and community events.

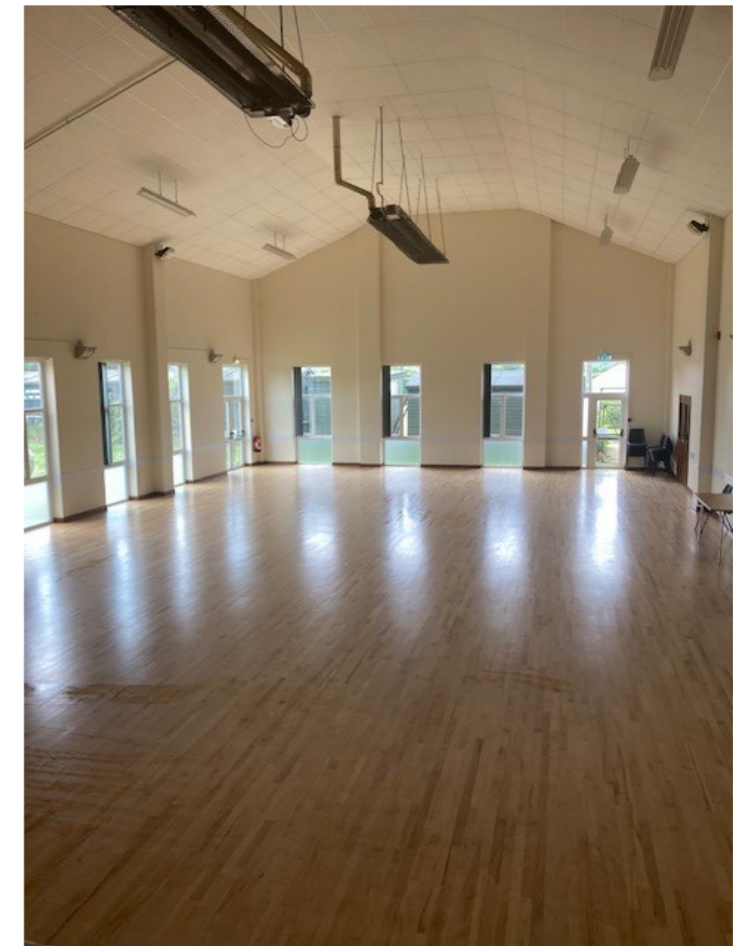
It is a lovely large hall with kitchen & catering facilities along with a stage area.

The Hall opens up onto the Playing Field which has access to the Children's Play Area & Multi use games area (MUGA).



The Community Hall, play area and MUGA are all run & managed by a very small group of Trustee volunteers and all funds to cover hall running costs and maintenance are raised by hiring the facilities to our regular clubs and to local people for private events.

Contrary to popular belief the Parish Council doesn't run these facilities and we do not receive any regular financial support.



Community Hall Trustees would welcome anyone who would like to join us, offer some free DIY services or organise a fundraising event to help raise funds to improve the facilities even further.

Please email Carol at tunstall.communityhall@gmail.com if you are interested to help.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Please see our online Booking Calendar for hire availability and Clubs that run regularly in the Hall which includes:

Yoga – Thursday evenings from 6pm

Strength & Mobility Classes – Tuesday afternoons from 1pm

Indoor Short Mat Bowls – Thursday afternoons from 2pm

Acorn Dog Training Club – Monday and Wednesday, daytime and evenings

Tai Chi – Friday afternoons from 1pm

Deben Archery – Tuesday evenings and Sunday mornings





Getting the most out of Life

I am often surprised by how long I can struggle on with something that is less than ideal before I stop to think, "Is there a better way?"

Many years ago, in my early 20s (and that is MANY years ago now!), I was struggling with a bad back. Some days I could hardly walk. This went on for a couple of years until one evening I joined my girlfriend (now my wife) while she was babysitting for a couple she knew. It turned out that the husband was a chiropractor, and as I hobbled into his house, he asked what was wrong. I told him my sad story, and he said, "I can fix that!"

I was a little dubious, but when he said he wouldn't charge for the first few appointments, I thought, what did I have to lose?

Six weeks later, I was back to normal and wondering why I hadn't gone to see him years earlier. I had simply assumed there wasn't a solution.

So often in life, we carry on struggling with things and assume that this is just how it is — and how it always will be.

But the Bible says differently.

Jesus said, "I have come that you might have life, and have it to the full" (John 10:10).

Where life means: Hope, truth, meaning, identity, forgiveness, acceptance, peace!

This March, we at Grace Church are joining with several other local churches to host a series of events called A Passion for Life, exploring the life that Jesus promises. This includes our Sunday morning services on the three Sundays leading up to Easter.

You would be very welcome at any of these events and services. And as always with what we do, there is no charge.

For more information, please see our website or get in touch with me.

DAVE RUSHBROOK

Minister, Grace Church Rendlesham
www.gracerendlesham.org

Wild about Campsea Spring Event

Wild About Spring: Saturday 28th March at Campsea Ashe Village Hall opposite the station. Blue badge parking is available at the village hall, other car parks available at the station and at Clarke & Simpson's Auction Centre. Free event (donations welcomed).

No need to book. Come for all or part of the day.

11.00 onwards - Crafting for Nature (building bug houses, bird boxes and feeders - material provided free of charge. Also **hot bed demonstration** on the community garden with a swap shop - bring and share surplus seeds, books and magazines - anything to do with gardening or wildlife.

Stay for lunch - bring your own picnic, or sample the delights of The Duck pub or Station House.

2.00pm Wild About Swifts - an illustrated talk by Simon Hooton on Suffolk Bird Group's **Save our Swifts** initiative. Find out what you can do in your village to help these high fliers.

3.00pm refreshments

3.30pm Wild About Weeds - an illustrated talk by author Rachel Fulcher. Learn to love these valuable plants.

Activities

Coffee Cake and Chat

For all, including toddlers
Every Wednesday during school term time at Tunstall Chapel
9:30am -11:30 am

Friday Club

For primary school children.
Every Friday during school term time at Tunstall Chapel
6:30pm-7:30pm

Youth Group

Secondary school young people.
Every Friday during school term time at Tunstall Chapel
7:45pm-9:00pm

Big Top Holiday Bible Club

We're running a three-day Holiday Bible Club during Easter holidays, from Wednesday to Friday, 2.00-4.30pm, at Rendlesham Primary School. The club is open to children from Reception to Year 6. This year's circus-themed programme will explore the miracles of Jesus through loads of fun activities, crafts, drama, games and snacks.

Weekly Morning Service

We meet every Sunday at 10.30am in Rendlesham Primary School.

The Vicar's Voice

Gosh!!

Where has time gone!!!

It seemed only a couple of weeks ago it was Christmas and New Year. Did you make any New Year Resolutions, if so have you managed to keep them? Here we are at the beginning of March, in the season of Lent Looking at Easter at the beginning of April. I've been trying to stop snacking between meals. Needless to say, I've not been that good at it.

I do have a weakness for Snickers, (Marathons as they used to be called) and American Hard Gums. So, in the words of Borg on Star Trek

"Resistance is futile".

But I have found that if I truly want to, I can avoid eating them. Then I can achieve my Target. The thing is I must truly want to succeed, to achieve losing a bit of weight. In Holy Week,

the week before Easter we follow the story of Christ's Journey to the Cross where He Died for Us. I think of how determined Christ must have been. He could, at any time, give up his journey.

But He did not give in. He knew that in order for us to truly be forgiven, He had to die for our sins.

What a Man!!

If he hadn't died Christianity would not exist. I wonder what our World would be like? Would society be a less caring world, a world of greed, and selfishness? Survival of the fittest?

Well, thankfully He did follow through with his mission. With God at the Centre. We all of us can make a difference to this World as well. But to do that we must truly want to. I ask myself this question. Am I prepared to change my life for the better, that will help others?

In Baptism we ask the question:

Do you turn away from sin and do you reject evil?

The answer is:

With Gods Help I Will.

If we ask God to Help us, we can all make a difference to our World and make it a better place.

Thanks for taking the time to read this.

Yours,

REVD CAPTAIN SIMON CAKE.

Tunstall Bowls Club—Open Weekend 25-26 April

The outdoor bowls season will soon be upon us and during the close season we have been carrying out renovations to the green, so that by the time we get outside, we will have a green to be justifiably proud of. The weather has been a major factor since last summer where the green suffered due the effects of long periods of hot dry weather, what a contrast to the weather so far this year, which has delayed some of the works we intended to complete by now.

The Club has had to withdraw from the Woodbridge League for this season, as we, like a number of other local clubs are suffering from a decline in membership numbers. We are determined to buck this trend by a sustained publicity drive, including leaflet drops, open events, the

continuation of our open tournaments and our new website. (www.tunstallbowlsclub.com).

We will be hosting an open/fun weekend on 25th and 26th April where visitors and newcomers will be welcomed to have a go, see what we are all about and chat over some light refreshments afterwards.

It would be very much appreciated if more local residents would support the club, which many of you will be aware has been going for over a hundred years and was once the very hub of the village.

Bowls has long been a game perceived as for older people only, absolute nonsense of course and most of the country's top bowlers are still of working age. Bowls can provide a great



outlet for some social interaction together with gentle exercise and what could be better than sitting in the sun on warm summer evenings, chatting with friends over a drink and watching or playing fellow bowlers.

We are open to everyone of any age and look forward to meeting you when we open up in April.