

WORDS FROM THE VILLAGE HALL TEAM



VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS

You can now book the village hall online! Check your dates on the Events Calendar and then book using our new booking form: <https://wattisfieldvillagehall.co.uk/book-the-hall/>

CALL FOR PHOTOGRAPHS

Do you have any good photos from events at the village hall over the years? We would love to add them to the website to make it a lovely community space. Please send images to admin@wattisfieldvillagehall.co.uk



COMMUNITY GARDEN

The community garden volunteers meet every month on the second Thursday and final Sunday 10am to 12noon. You are very welcome to join. This month's dates are:

Thursday 10 February: 10 am - 12 noon

Sunday 27 February: 10am - 12 noon

NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next planned meeting of Wattisfield Parish Council is on **Monday 21 February 2021 at 7.30 pm and will be at the URC Chapel in Chapel Road, Wattisfield.** Residents are most welcome. At the beginning you can speak on any matter relating to the agenda or the village and then you can, if you wish, observe the remainder of the meeting.

The agenda for the meeting is usually published on noticeboards and at www.wattisfield.onesuffolk.net/agendas/ a week or so before the meeting. Then the draft minutes are published on the noticeboards and the website a few days later.

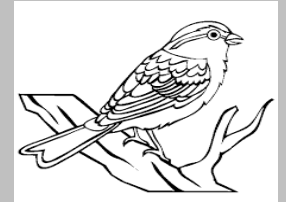
The Wattisfield Warbler is published monthly (except January and August) by Wattisfield Parish Council. Items for the newsletter should be submitted by email to the Parish Clerk by the 15th of the month prior to publication.

Items may be declined or edited.

wattisfieldpc@outlook.com

Issue No: 8—February 2022

THE WATTISFIELD WARBLER



FEBRUARY 2022

COMMUNITY CENTRE - REFURB OR REBUILD?



The village hall trustees and the Parish Council have for a while now been conscious that the village hall is in need of major repairs to the roof, the facias and guttering and the floor. Also, the hall is expensive to heat and is not energy efficient .

In response to this, as you might be already aware, the two groups have formed a working group to focus on these concerns made up of two Parish Councillors, a village hall trustee and four residents who responded to the request for people with appropriate skills to help. This working group have now met three times to look at the options and will in due course decide on the best way forward.

The first step, working with MSDC and other agencies, is to understand what work is needed to repair and improve the current building. To this end, there will be a full structural and energy survey with broad costings. Then, with this information to hand, both the trustees and Parish Council can decide on whether it is feasible to repair or whether a new village hall would be the better option.

An important part of the process is to understand what the village would like from the new facilities. This will not only include what is needed from a building but also the recreation ground. In a few months time, the working group will be asking residents for their views. When you do receive a questionnaire, please do respond so the group can make sure they deliver facilities that the village needs. This consultation process is key when making requests for funding.

It will take some time to deliver a new or refurbished building. The working group have been liaising with other villages who have recently gone through this process. Experience suggests this is a project that could take three or four years to deliver.

NOTICE OF VACANCY

Notice is hereby given that there is a vacancy on Wattisfield Parish Council. The vacancy has previously been advertised, and no election has been requested. The Council is now able to fill the vacancy by co-option.

Applications should be either emailed or posted to the Parish Clerk.

Applicants are asked to give brief reasons for offering their services to the Parish Council. Any elector interested in applying is welcome to contact the Clerk for further details. The successful applicant will be chosen following consideration by the Parish Council.

Applicants should note that Councillors are expected to attend regular monthly meetings on the third Monday of each month and any additional meetings as may be arranged, and to represent the electors of Wattisfield in raising and discussing those issues of interest and concern on which the Parish Council is empowered to act.

Applicants should also note that membership of the Council is open to those whose residence is in Wattisfield, or within 3 miles of Wattisfield, or whose principal place of work is in Wattisfield, and who are not disqualified because of a criminal record, bankruptcy or involvement in corrupt practices.

Please apply by 10 March 2022 so that applications can be considered at the March Parish Council meeting.

Christopher Garman
Parish Clerk

Springers, The Street, Coney Weston, Bury St Edmunds, IP31 1HG
01359 221600
wattisfieldpc@outlook.com

PUDDLE DUCK CAFÉ

AT THE URC CHAPEL
IN CHAPEL ROAD, WATTISFIELD
SATURDAYS

5 and 19 FEBRUARY 2022
FROM 10.30 AM to 12.30 PM

Friendly welcome for everyone. Come and enjoy.
Homemade refreshments and time to chat.



PARKING CONCERNS AROUND THE VILLAGE

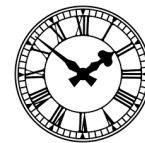


There have been reports of inappropriate parking around the village.

There are concerns that vehicles in the close part of Chapel Road are parking either partly or completely on the pavement. Any parking on the pavement is unacceptable and can make life difficult for pedestrians. So can residents and their visitors please park on the road in a suitable location.

Also, there is concern that vehicles are parking in the passing place on Pottery Hill. This is a dedicated area to allow vehicles to pass avoiding the need for dangerous reversing back onto the A143. Can residents and their visitors please not park in this area.

The Parish Council are not the parking authority, but it is hoped that this reminder will avoid having to report situations to the police.



CHURCH CLOCK PROJECT

There has been a delay in completing the work. Unfortunately, one of the new parts was not satisfactory and has had to be re-ordered. Hopefully, you will hear the clock chiming soon.

THE RURAL COFFEE CARAVAN

WILL BE VISITING

TUESDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2022

FROM 10.00 AM TO 12.00 NOON

WATTISFIELD VILLAGE HALL

Do pop along to the Village Hall and have a coffee and a chat. All welcome.

WATTISFIELD CHURCH SERVICES DURING FEBRUARY

St Margaret's Church

There are no services during February.

United Reformed Church

Every Sunday at 11.00 am at Chapel Road, Wattisfield

