

Old Buckenham Newsletter



February 2026



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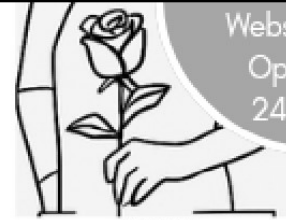
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If you are interested in 'sponsoring' an issue, it is a nominal cost of £10. There
are still some months free in 2026 including September, October and
December. Should you have a special occasion that you wish to celebrate you
may be able to share a month with someone else.

Latest renovations complete

This newsletter has mentioned Robert Cocks and the almshouses that he founded in Old Buckenham during 1860 several times over the years. Here is a two part article (next in March) commemorating the earliest and latest history of this famous building.

With the work on the roofs now completed, the almshouses provide a wonderful image across the west side of the village Green, the freshly-pointed chimneys glinting in the sunshine.

An article in the Illustrated London News around 1860 described them like this:

'New Almshouses at Old Buckenham. We had the pleasure of announcing a few weeks ago

that a range of buildings, forming ten almshouses, had been erected at Old Buckenham, Norfolk. The inmates were installed a short time since by their benefactor, Mr Robert Cocks of New Burlington Street, London, who at his own cost purchased the land and erected these buildings for the benefit of the poor deserving inhabitants born in the above named village. Mr Cocks has also endowed them with 2s. a week each and a ton of coals yearly for ever. A Bible, of large type, is placed in each house for the use of the inmates. The frontage of the buildings is about 222ft. Each house consists of a living-room and bedroom, each 10ft. 6in. square and 9ft. high in the clear, both lighted from the front. The

The Old Buckenham Newsletter is published monthly and distributed free in and around Old Buckenham.

The editor is Ron Brewer of 'Crockslea', Cake Street, Old Buckenham, NR17 1PS who you can email with your news or your queries about advertising by going to *obnewspostbox@aol.com*

You can also keep up with the latest village news and see photos of the latest activities by going to *http://oldbuckenham.blogspot.com*

floors of the living room are of paving tiles on 6in of concrete; those of the bedrooms are of wood. Each room has a fireplace fitted with Pierse's cottager's stove, also a cupboard and other conveniences. Opening from the living rooms are wash-houses 8ft square with a sink and a place for coals; also a separate closet for each house .The buildings are of red brick, with white brick and Bath stone dressings, the two ends being brought forward 3ft, with pointed gables and moulded stone coping and angular buttresses. In each gable is a shield and monogram in a



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quatrefoil. There are two porches to centre houses, projecting and carried up with a gable and buttress, also containing a stone tablet with inscription. The whole is roofed with Bangor Duchess slating and surmounted by an ornamental ridge and crest tiling. The sashes are of cast iron. Three sides of the ground are inclosed with a red brick wall 3ft 9in high, coped with white saddle back coping bricks, the gate piers being carried up somewhat higher and surmounted with stone caps, weathered, and gables on all sides. At the rear of the buildings, in the centre, forming the water supply, is a well of spring water and a rain water tank; the whole of the rainwater being collected from the various roofs and conducted by means of glazed earthenware pipes into the tank. The cost of the buildings, including the land is about £2000, this sum being exclusive of the architect's fees and the endowment. The builders are Messrs Loveday of Old Buckenham, who have executed the work from the designs and under the superintendence of Mr Thos. Dyke, architect, of London.'

These are the rules and regulations for those occupying these almshouses that were published soon after they opened. The modern set of rules are not quite so onerous and the residents have to pay to live in them rather than

receiving £2 each quarter and a ton of coal each year.

Rules and Regulations for the government of the ten Alms Houses at Old Buckenham, Near Attleboro', Norfolk.

Founded by Robert Cocks, AD1860

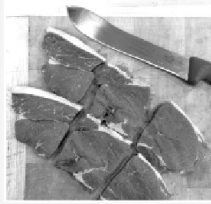
I.-The intention of the Founder is that these Alms Houses should be the home for those persons, of the age of Fifty-five years and upwards, who have seen better days, whose habits are known to be temperate and cleanly and who have kept themselves independent of parochial relief.

II.-The Pensioners, who shall from time to time partake of the benefits of this Institution, shall be ten poor or families, natives of the above-named parish of Old Buckenham; and be Unmarried Men, Widowers, Spinsters, or Widows; such Families to consist of Husband and Wife only; (one of whom, at least, shall be a native of the said parish); or of a Widow born in the said parish and one infirm daughter; and if either be removed by the "will of God" then the Survivor shall enjoy every privilege as tenant during his or her life, in the same manner as if both were living, unless such Survivor shall marry again, in which case he or she shall their upon, immediately quit the Alms House, and shall lose all the

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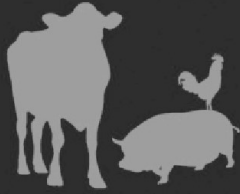
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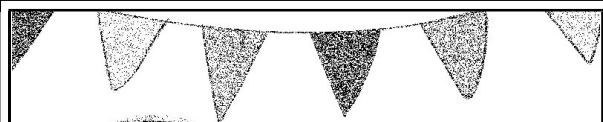
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privileges of a Pensioner. Each Pensioner, besides living Rent Free, shall receive, every Quarter, Two Pounds, and One Ton of Coals every Year.

III.-No Lodger to be admitted.

IV.- No Relatives of a deceased Pensioner are to have any part of the current Quarters payment.

V.-The Pensioners to visit and assist each other in lameness or sickness.

VI.-The Men not to swear or quarrel, and the Women not to brawl or scold.

VII.- No nails to driven in the walls without the consent of one of the Trustees,

VIII.- No Shrubs, Plants, Flowers, or Trees, to be nailed against any of the external or fence walls of the Alms Houses.

IX.-The Ground in front of the Alms Houses to be kept as a Flower Garden.

X.-No Pensioner to keep Pigs, Poultry, nor Animals of any kind, except Birds, or a Cat.

XI.- No Pensioner to build, or cause to be erected, any Shed or Building of any kind on the uncovered ground attached to the Alms Houses.

XII.- No Alms House to be used as a Shop, and no Sale of Furniture or other things to take place, either by Auction or otherwise, on the Premises.

XIII.-It is required that all

Pensioners Will have the Chimneys of their Rooms swept three times in each year, namely, on the first Friday in January; the first Friday in April; and the first Friday in October; and will keep their Rooms clean, and preserve the Same from ill-usage.

XIV.- It is imperative that the Pensioners should be regular attendants at a place of worship on the Lords Day, unless prevented by illness.

XV.- Any Pensioner who shall wilfully Damage the Property, papering of the walls, painted wood, or any part thereof shall, at his or her own cost, make good such damage to the satisfaction of the Trustees.

XVI.-All broken Windows, caused by negligence of a Pensioner, to be repaired by, and at his or her expense.

XVII.-The Trustees shall have power to remove any Pensioner known to be in the habit of tippling or frequenting the public houses, or not strictly; conforming to the above Rules.

By Order of ROBERT COCKS, the founder

And the Trustees, The Rev Thos Fulcher, Mr Richard Bird and Mr Stroud Lincoln Cocks. 21 August 1875

Robert Cocks was born in Old Buckenham in 1797. His parents have a prominent grave in All Saints Church. He founded his music publishing business in 1827 in

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London and clearly went from strength to strength, moving to New Burlington Street in 1848. Music publishing in those days, before gramophone records, meant selling sheet music. As well as benefacting the Almshouses to the Parish of Old Buckenham he was involved in the building of the original Infant School, now a private house on The Green, as well as donating the principal stained glass window to All Saints Church. Robert Cocks took his two sons into partnership in 1868 before dying in 1887, 90 years old being quite an achievement in Victorian England. Little information concerning the properties has come to light prior to the post war period and, judging by the works that were then carried out, it is safe to assume that little indeed was done to alter the properties from the original. In

1954, from old plans found in the files, bathrooms and foul drainage were added. Prior to this work it appears from the plans that the amenities available consisted of a drinking water well and pump, a rainwater tank and pump (presumably for clothes/washing purposes – commonly called a soft water tank in Victorian construction). Each property had a wash-house, containing a coal bunker and a stove with a separate externally accessed privy. The latter, following various public health legislation, would have been emptied by the Rural District Council. Following the improvement works in 1954 the wash-house became the kitchen, the privy the coal bunker and a newly constructed bathroom added. The septic tank foul drainage was latterly connected to mains drainage when that arrived in the village. Due no

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doubt due to post war austerity, the bathrooms were very simply constructed comprising corrugated asbestos cement roofing, a single plasterboard ceiling and an external wall comprising a single half brick. One can imagine the internal temperature in winter .

Various heating systems appear to have been installed. Originally, Cottager Stoves were installed in both the living and bedroom and one would assume the living room stove was the source of cooking. Over the last few years the previous unreliable heating systems were replaced with programmeable electric radiators .

And so the above described kitchens and bathrooms largely remained until 2015 when a major programme of modernisation was initiated and which is still ongoing today.

The works completed in the last ten years have included:

Replacing heating and hot water

systems.

Replacing all kitchen and bathroom fittings.

Replacing kitchen and bathroom windows.

Re-decoration, internally and externally.

Renewing carpets and vinyl floorings.

Extending and renewing electrical systems.

Fitting fire detection and fire fighting equipment.

Replacing incoming water mains.

Rationalising and renewing surface water drainage.

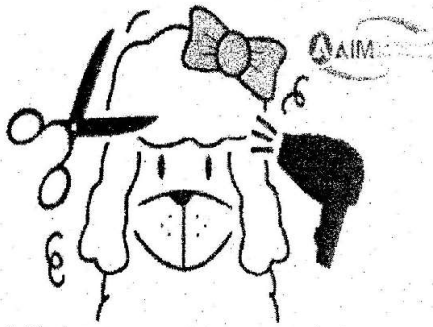
Replacing bathroom roofs and insulating bathroom walls.

Replacing asbestos cement shed roofing.

Next month's instalment will give more details of the new roof and chimneys.

Progress on weather radar

Here is the latest news from the Met Office on the construction of



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
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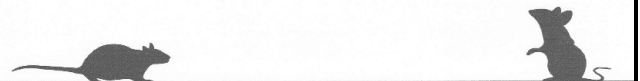
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the weather radar on Abbey Road at Old Buckenham. Before Christmas the Met Office's main contractor finished the construction of the tower and the installation of the communication cabin. The activities associated with providing a net ecological benefit are now being carried out and this includes planting along the fence lines, bird-boxes and improvements to the existing pond on the Anglian Water site.

The project team are currently planning for the tower-top installation of the radar parts and the associated radome. This will take around three weeks and is expected to start to happen from mid-February. There will be a period of increased activity at the site during this time, including deliveries and crane operations.

After the tower-top installation, the project will move into a testing and commissioning phase which will probably take several months. This is mainly to check that the radar is functioning well and is able to

deliver the higher quality rainfall data to feed into Met Office and Environment Agency products and services. The radar will be controlled and monitored remotely during this phase of the project. They will also use this time to check noise levels to make sure that they are within the constraint stipulated in the planning permission. The project will end in the summer once the testing and commissioning has been completed and the data obtained will be used to better predict the rainfall and other weather conditions throughout East Anglia.

Dates for your diaries

Now the Shelf Pop Up shop is only coming every fortnight you may like to note these dates so that you don't miss the opportunity to buy some basic shopping at reduced prices and meet other villagers for a good chat in warm surroundings. The Pop Up Pantry will be in the Memorial Room at the Village Hall in Old Buckenham on Monday 2 and 16 February. In March there will be three visits on Monday 2, 16 and 30 March.

All Saints services in February

Sunday 1 February

10am Group Holy Communion for Epiphany at St Mary's Eccles, no service at Old Buckenham

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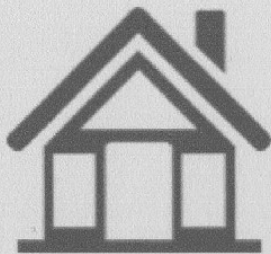
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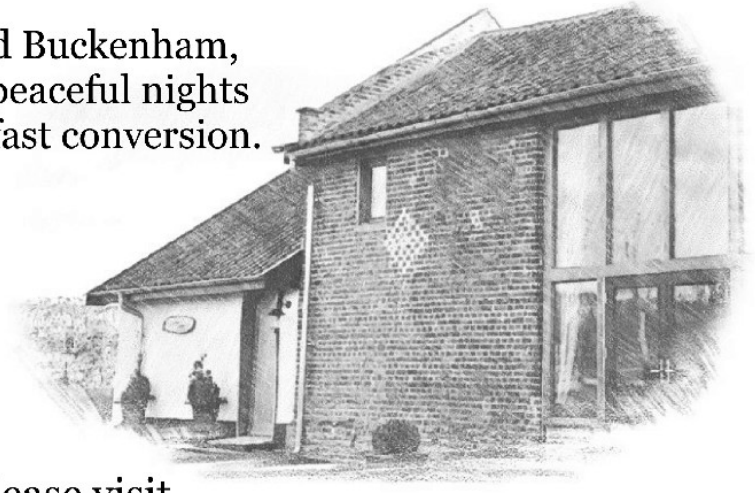
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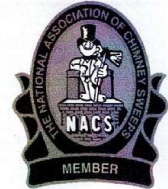
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Sunday 8 February

9.30am Holy Communion

Wednesday 11 February

7.30pm A time for Quiet Reflection, led by a lay member of All Saints Church

Sunday 15 February

9.30am Morning Prayer

Wednesday 18 February (Ash Wednesday)

7pm Holy Communion and Imposition of ashes

Sunday 22 February

9.30am Holy Communion

Looking forward to September

Old Buckenham Women's Institute are pleased to be running the Open Produce and Handicraft Show. The date is set for the next show on Saturday 5 September. Please note this in your diaries. It is an open show for everybody in Old Buckenham and the surrounding areas. Entries to the classes are welcomed, for instance, from New Buckenham, Banham, Carleton Rode and even further afield. The WI are well on their way in arranging the schedule, organising judges, finding sponsors and advertising and if you have any questions or would like to sponsor us please email them at oldbuckenhamwi@gmail.com. They would like to include any local businesses as this is a community-based project and it would be nice

to include everybody.

They would like any trophies won at last year's show to be returned to them as soon as possible in order to make sure they have them to present at the next show. You can contact Delia Webster on 07947 013200 to arrange this. Also check the Facebook page 'Old Buckenham WI' for updates on the Produce Show throughout the year. Here is this month's little something to help you all. If you think it's too cold to start your vegetable garden, think again! You can sow a variety of veg seeds in late January and early February especially if you use a greenhouse, cold frame, propagator or even a sunny windowsill. To get you started try leeks, onions, aubergines and chillies.

Village Vibes Disco

There are two friends living in Old Buckenham who miss the opportunity to go dancing without needing expensive taxis and late nights so they have created Village Vibes to bring fun disco nights with a high-quality live DJ and bar to your rural doorstep. Their first event is on Saturday 14 February in Old Buckenham Village Hall from 7.30pm to 11pm. They really hope this will be a fantastic community event where you can come and celebrate valentines with others –

OLD BUCKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

CONTACT DETAILS

For general enquiries please contact the Parish Clerk. If you do not have internet access you can drop a letter into the parish council post box at the village hall

Parish Clerk Megan Elvin
clerk@oldbuckpc.co.uk

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Naomi Bailey, (Chair)
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07826 375356

Julia Aitken (RFO), obpc.rfo@gmail.com

Copy for the March
newsletter will need to be with
the editor by
Friday 20 February

Contributions by email to
obnewspostbox@aol.com

couples or singles, friends or family bringing us all together for a night to remember.

Please visit Eventbrite to buy your tickets. Just search for Village Vibes or see if this QR Code will work for you.



Meeting and greeting

Plans are well in hand for our 'Meet and Greet your Village Organisations' event. Come along between 10am and 12.30pm on Saturday 25 April to meet representatives of all those village groups that you may know little about but where you might find new opportunities to get closer to the heart of our community, and make new friends. There will be lots of tasty refreshments and some activities for the younger members of the family too so you'll have a chance to properly chat. More details will be available soon. In the meantime, if you're reading

this and not sure whether your village organisation is being represented, please check - they want as many groups as possible to have this opportunity to reach out into the community and let everyone know what they do.

Supporting St Martins

Thanks to all who attended the Christmas Eve Carol Service at All Saints' Church. The sum raised for St Martins Housing Trust was £379.

Easter lilies at All Saints

Once again, on Easter Day (Sunday 5 April), All Saints Church will commemorate the lives of loved ones who have died. Flower arrangements in the church at Easter will comprise of lilies, each in memory of departed relatives or friends.

If you would like to participate in this event by remembering loved ones please contact Sheila Freake (details below) before Sunday 22 March with your name/s and the name/s of the person/s to be remembered together with any donation you may wish to make to the Lily Fund.

It is estimated that each lily will cost in the region of £5. Any additional money received will go towards the costs of ensuring that All Saints Church is able to continue providing for the needs of the

village. It needs funds to maintain services for regular worship and provide a place where people can spend a quiet time. In addition they are intending to try, when we are able, to provide kitchen facilities in the church, as this will enhance what it can offer to the community. If you are a UK taxpayer you could increase any donation you wish to make by 25% (at no extra cost to yourself) by placing it in a yellow envelope (available in the church or from Sheila Freake) and completing the details. When completing the details please give only the taxpayer's name and address. Cheques should be made out to Old Buckenham PCC.

Further details from Mrs S M Freake, 36 Hargham Road, Old Buckenham, NR17 1SL, email sheilafreake@btinternet.com or telephone 01953 860156.

Parish Council minutes

These notes have been written by the newsletter editor from the draft minutes and so may contain information that is changed at a later date.

Old Buckenham Parish Council met on Thursday 8 January 2026 at Old Buckenham Methodist Church. Those present were Councillors Naomi Bailey (Chair), Doug Irons (Vice Chair), Stan Burton, Steve Gowers, Pete Twissell and Darren Butler. Apologies for non-

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Our next meeting is on
Thursday 24 February at 7.30pm in
Old Buckenham Village Hall

'Hear for Norfolk' is dedicated to improving the emotional well being, communication and the overall quality of life of people with hearing loss and related conditions. A spokesperson will be explaining what is involved.

We have refreshments with home-made cakes/biscuits, a raffle and competitions. we also have Book Group, Gardening Group, Scrabble meetings and a Graft Group which meet every month. We are a friendly group of women of all ages and welcome new members and visitors to come and see us.

For more information contact Delia Webster on
07947 013200 or email us on
oldbuckenhamwi@gmail.com



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attendance had been received from Lesley Evison, David Taylor and Steve Askew (District and County Councillor). Also attending were Megan Elvin (Clerk) and Julia Aitken (RFO) along with six members of the public.

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 4 December 2025 were approved (6 in favour) after a slight amendment needing to be made under Pete Twissell's report regarding the village hall. The land is owned by the Parish Council. The Village Hall Committee are currently searching for the official documents stating this for administrative purposes. The amended minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 6 November 2025 were also agreed (6 in favour).

Public participation not relating to the agenda. Children had been seen on the previous Sunday jumping on the ice over the pond near the shop. Should there be safety warnings? The Parish Council will check if it can do this and/or provide buoyance aids. Something could be put out to social media, ponds are deep and parents should advise children not to play on the ponds.

Financial matters. The Barclays Community Account now holds £24,495.52, the Lloyds Community Account has £3,645.79 and there is

£2,998.90 in the Barclays Charity Account. Payments for Approval totalled £4,089.02 which included £107.45 to the community car drivers, £39.50 for the Clerk's DBS Check and £1,792.97 to Breckland Council.

A meeting was planned for Monday 12 January between Naomi Bailey, Doug Irons, Megan Elvin and Julia Aitkin to discuss the financial side of things. Steve Gowers and Pete Twissell to attend to complete an internal audit. A proposal to consider using an accountancy software was approved (5 in favour 1 abstained).

To approve budget for Precept 2026/27. Total amount requested for the Precept is £31,779.91. The budget was not increased greatly last year which is why this year it is a large budget. The estimated total contribution from the Parish Council to a Council Tax Band D property will be £57.72 for 2026/27. (This makes it ten monthly instalments of £5.77 which is an increase of 48.5% based on last year's budget.) This was approved (6 in favour).

Councillors' and District Councillor's reports. Steve Askew was unable to attend the meeting and so had sent a written report of his activities. This consisted solely of news from the County Council and will be available when the

minutes are approved.

Pete Twissell reported that he had carried a repair to the gate at the war memorial. Steve Gowers said Speed watch had been collecting data over the last year over 70 sessions. Cars have started to slow down. Still a problem of speeding especially down Hargham road and Attleborough Road and he would like to have a brainstorming session regarding Speed watch with the volunteers. Road signs that need clearing have still not been done and the Clerk to contact Highways again regarding this.

New planning applications. The Homestead, Old Buckenham: Variation of conditions 2 and removal of condition 9 on pp PL/2024/1120/RMIN – Revised front porch design for plot 1, garage sizes slightly under requirements of condition 9 (PL/2025/1886/VAR). No issues and a proposal to agree was approved (6 in favour).

The Cottage, Loss Wroo, Hargham Road. Remove Existing Conservatory and Erection of a Rear single-story extension (PL/2025/1793/PAH). No issues and a proposal to agree was approved (6 in favour).

Community Car Scheme. Doug Irons took on the task of amending the Community Car Scheme following previous co-ordinator

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stepping down and a current driver taking on the role in the interim. Our insurance company have advised that we need a risk assessment and to continue minuting the financial side of things. Need for a councillor to take on the co-ordinator role and one month given to make a decision on this.

Green Working Committee.

Naomi Bailey had a phone call discussion with the chair of Green Working Committee. The chair is doing a lot of the admin work herself and some of her committee are not always able to help with the computer side of things. She wanted to know if the committee could be expanded to provide more help. Foundation of committee at the moment is two Green Right holders, two Parish Councillors and two public members. The suggestion was to increase the public members by four to make the committee ten. Green Rights holders in the village are very few. It was proposed that either Lesley Iveson or Stan Burton move over to become a Green Right holder section of the committee and a new councillor comes on to replace that role. Darren Butler is to take on the role of the councillor committee. The Clerk is to contact the Lord of the Manor to ask

regarding having a proxy to attend the meetings as per lease of the Green agreement. Stan Burton has drawn up a risk assessment that the volunteers need to read and sign. The person who is heading the volunteer day will be the one to organise this each volunteer day. The Clerk to re-do the Terms of Reference.

Ottomer Pond. The private land on the side of the pond is going up for auction. The estate agents have not been very forthcoming with advising buyers what needs to be completed.

Parking. School parking has increased again. Naomi Bailey to send an email once more to the schools advising use of the car park behind the Gamekeeper between 2.30pm and 3.30pm.

Precept Grant application approval. Both the Village Hall and the Old Buckenham Players had applied for £1000 Precept Grants. They were each asked for more information before the grants would be considered. Both were then agreed (five in favour, one abstained due to interest).

Old Buckenham Heritage Group. No update to give. Will chase one more time but currently not gaining large interest.

Benches on the Green. Discussion is being held regarding the ownership of the existing benches

outside the Ox and Plough pub. The current agreement is until April 2026 but it is under the previous tenant's name. Until ownership of the benches is established, the Parish Council cannot get involved. They can remain until April.

Repairs to the Green. Written in the agreement for TWT it is stated that the repairs to the Green should be carried out one month post event or the Parish Clerk notified in writing why this can't be done. The Parish Council were promised repairs would be completed early December, then before Christmas. They have still not been done. The Parish Council have now decided that they will proceed with the repair to the Green and get three quotes. The invoice will then send to the previous leaseholder to reimburse this payment. Should this not be paid the Parish Council will take him to court. The Clerk to contact Dave Tranmer regarding this.

Two Wheel Tuesday. Doug Irons to talk with new leaseholder of Ox and Plough to see if this will be going ahead and to get the wheels in motion regarding application for it.

Fen Street traffic/speed. The Clerk to chase for a fixed quote of the costs and what they will be doing with this money. To remain on agenda until we have a firm answer.

Solar Farm. No update to give as waiting for Solar Farm representative

to come back with a meeting date. **Volunteer recruitments and Meet and Greet morning.** No longer need to provide funding for the cost of hiring village hall – they have kindly offered use of the hall for free. To be discussed further for what Parish Council will provide for councillor volunteering.

Footpaths. A one-off payment made many years ago for the instillation of the footpath as well as maintenance. Need to find evidence of this. Look to getting three quotes for the reparations of the path ourselves.

Puddledock Corner update. Waiting for the contractor to come back with date to start the work. Naomi Bailey will chase.

Resurfacing outside post office. When weather is better, the potholes will be re-filled. In the meantime the Clerk to get quote for the full car park to be resurfaced.

Post Office drainage. First estimate to repair drainage is £1500. Who should pay for this? Letter should be sent to the property's owners of all the houses to advise that it is the water running off their roof that is causing the issues to the Green. Parish Council does not have the funds to repair the drainage themselves.

Public participation, agenda items only. A parishioner was concerned



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about Ottomer Pond. Appreciates everything that has been done. The pipe between the two properties is blocked. Why have we not been proactive and enforced the cleaning out of the pipe that is blocked to be flushed through? There is a dispute as to who owns the ditch. The problem now is getting the landowner to do their side of things. Wanted to know what we can do next – the more people who complain to the local flooding authority, the more likely something might happen. *Next agenda.* Subjects to be discussed should include Ottomer Pond, Solar Farm, Community Car Scheme, Green Working Committee, resurfacing outside village shop, drainage and embankment on Hargham

Road/Post Office Terrace, Parking, repairs to the Green, Volunteer Meet and Greet Day and Footpaths.

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Thursday 5 February in Old Buckenham Village Hall starting at 7.30pm.

Talks that might interest you

Diss Art Society are a friendly and welcoming society that meets at the Corn Hall in Diss at 2 pm on the third Tuesday of the month to enjoy a wide range of illustrated talks about the arts, given by highly qualified speakers. Their future programme is:

Thursday 17 February - BANKSY - Pepe Martinez on a history of graffiti and street art. Is Banksy a fraud or a genius?

Thursday 17 March -
IMPRESSIONISTS AND THEIR
GARDENS - Twigs Way on
gardens created and depicted by
artists including Monet, Pissarro
and Renoir.

Thursday 21 April - AT THE SIGN
OF THE FALCON - John
Benjamin on the life and works of
Harry Murphy: goldsmith,
silversmith and unique
Englishman.

Thursday 19 May - CHOPIN
AND THE POLISH SPIRIT -
Rosamund Bartlett on Chopin's
revolutionary polonaises and
mazurkas and their impact on
society.

Thursday 16 June - BECOMING
JANE AUSTEN - Annalie Talent on
the making of a superstar.
For more information read
<https://artsocdiss.org.uk> or email
info@artsocdiss.org.uk.

What's up now?

Hi up Ole Man orn tha Grene, ita
sone be Easter, sa Red Van Man.
It dunt sem five minits sinc we be
torkin ar bote Chrismarse.
Ar ole Worl be ar chan in, sum fo
tha bes, tufer fo tha worse. Sum
orf tha chan ges tick uley tha
Country wuns, chalen ar trad
shuns, arn yew carn argu for en
arginst. Wot dew yew mene Ole
Man? Wel as yew nowe I be tha
son orf ar Game keeper, mi Dad

wus tha six orf tha family who
did thart, five orf them orn wun
earstat in Sufoke, tharts arn
orful lon time. That wont jus
Game keeper whoe kept ar
workin fur tha same farm or estat,
farm workers orf orl descriptin
did tha, live in tie cottages,
workard lon hours fa nort muc
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hed ther tradishuns, but must orf
orl tha hed tha pride.

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goe. Wel in tew das world
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wot be yew orn ar bote. Fox
hunting, bludie hell yew mite be
rite.

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folaring wit tha farm workars arn
vilagers ar like. It onlie wus dun
orn tha Estates free or for times ar
yer, ar ronde this har time tha
turn out wus spec tacular. Tha
hoss, wit its ridars in Red Cots,
white breachars, long blac boots,
blac scul caps. Tha
dorgs honds tha corled em, wit
tha wipar in tharts ar bloke yew
nowe. Tha ust tew meet outside
orf ar pub in ar vilarge, ware tha
wode cum bac tew arta tha
"hunt" ware tha wode drink port
out orf ar stirep cup. Tha

vilarg forke, tha men
driken bere, tha
womarn gingar bere, us kids
frut juce, eatan ar packart orf
crisps, Smith's orf corse, tri in tew
fine tha sortl, thart wus wraped in
ar litalr square orf blue papar.
Thart be orl rite Ole Man, wot ar
bote chasern tha por ole fox
howe code tha justifi thart? I fink
yew mite hev gorn par way tew
ansarin thart Red Van Man, wot
doe yew mene? Yew sa "ole",
mos orf tha foxes cort wus ole. I
nowe huntin be banned. If yew
hev arn ole dorg arn it gits rite ill
yew corl tha Vet, mak ar dis
sushun arn hev it put down, put it
out orf its misary, dunt yew? I
spose so. Wot ar bote tha pore
ole fox, sic ore ill, liein in ar hedge
row or ar bura waitin tew die?
We ort tew fink ar bote
thart nowe arn argin. I ent tri en
tew justar fy huntin or shooten,
but thar be tew sides orf tha
argument.
Wot I doe be ar sayen, dunt
distroy ar tradishuns bie ar banen
tha fox hunt meet, tha hosses, tha
ridars, tha dorgs. It be ar
tradishun, ar cuntrie side
tradishun, I accept we ort tew kepe
tha ban orn huntin, but lets
nort destory orl ar
cuntrie side pass times. Wen nex
yew goe inta Sainsbury's or wot
evar supar stor arn buy wun orf
them tha pre prepared Chickerns,

stop arn fink for ar moment wot
sort orf life it hev hed, twev
wekes or soe in ar cramped hut wit
posablie ar thorsend ufers, prior
tew be en procesed nort orlas in
arn gode way. Yew hev sed thart ar
for Ole Man but thars ar
diference twin sport arn sarplin ar
food chane. As I sed Red Van Man
thars orlas be tew sides tew everi
story, yew be rite Ole Man.
Thar ent jus wot we be ar torken ar
bote, I wus heartened bi thart thar
Muslim man in Australia who ovar
poward ar nufer Muslim man who
wit his boye, wus ar shoten arn
killen them thar Jews. I reken
tha onlie be wun God, we jus corl
him ar difent name. Pity we
carnt git tew gefer Red Van Man.
Cor blas Ole Man on the Grene
tharts ar pushin tha boundries if we
ar be goen tew tork ar bote fings
like thart, perhaps Red Van Man.
Thart be tha problem we dunt
tork ar bote it enuf.
Wel I hed ar be ar goen, mi bike
nede ar clean! Cherio tew gefer
hope to chat nex mumf

Plea from editor

Any material for the March
newsletter would be appreciated
a little earlier than usual as there
will be three days less in February
to prepare it all...

Old Buckenham Community Car service

The following drivers are providing a service to take people to the doctors or to hospital appointments and can be contacted at:

Robin Curtis - 01953 860736

John Frost (Attleborough only) - 01953 860841

Lorna Gedge - 01953 860669

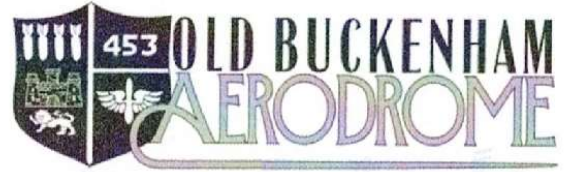
Alison Hannah and David Hannah - 01953 861261

Diary dates for February

Here are details of some of the events going on in the village this month

Monday 2	Shelf pop-up shop at Village Hall, 9.30am to 11.30am
Thursday 5	Parish Council, Village Hall, 7.30pm
Friday 6	Mobile Library throughout village from 10am
Wednesday 11	Luncheon Club, Village Hall, 10am to 1.30pm
Thursday 12	Social Circle, Village Hall, 7.15pm for 7.30pm
Saturday 14	Village Vibe Disco, Village Hall, 7.30pm to 11pm
Monday 16	Shelf pop-up shop at Village Hall, 9.30am to 11.30am
Friday 20	Copy date for March newsletter
Thursday 26	Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm

Regular happenings in the village are the Old School Bookshop open Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays between 10am and 4pm, the Fawns (for parents and their pre-school children) in the Village Hall each Friday morning in term time from 9am to 10.30am, the Old Buckenham Singers in the Methodist Church every Tuesday from 7.30pm to 9pm, the village Youth Club meets on Fridays in the Methodist Church at 6.30pm and the Shelf Pop Up shop is in the Village Hall Memorial Room every other Monday from 9.30am to 11.30am.



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