

Parish Council & Village News

beckhamewpc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk



PROPOSED EAST AND WEST BECKHAM COMMUNITY ACTIVITY, HEALTH AND WELLBEING PROJECT

The Parish Council have been aware for some time that the existing equipment in the playground opposite the church in West Beckham is nearing the end of its life. As a result, we are starting to consider ways to fund a combined project that will include:

- Replacing the existing playground equipment with some children's playground equipment as well as some adult activity equipment. We will have to get the balance right but think that the available space is large enough for us to mix both types of equipment and provide a valuable activity space both for children and adults in our parish.
- Enhance the provision on our allotment with initial ideas based around: upgrading the water provision, improving access, providing a shelter, creating dedicated small family allotments with a raised bed system and space for children, and provision of an orchard area.



New secure chain link fencing and gates installed at the play ground opposite the Church

We are still in the early stages of planning, but we think that that the overall project will cost somewhere between £20,000 and £40,000. Although we have parish funds available to provide some matched funding, most of the funding will have to be found from grant funding. As such, towards the end of the year we intend to submit a funding bid to the **Hornsea 3 Community Fund**. This is a recently available fund that over a ten-year period is going to provide grants to communities all along the North Norfolk coast. Grants will provide community funding for worthy projects based on several themes including community buildings and activities, environmental and green initiatives, public open space projects, and sports recreation and play.

As there will be many applications for funding we will submit as best an application as we can, whilst understanding that there is no guarantee of success and that over the next year we will also have to explore other potential funding opportunities.

This project will no doubt take some time to come to fruition, but we are optimistic that over the next couple of years the Parish Council will be able to realise our plan to improve the outdoor activity spaces and facilities that we have in our parish.

By Cllr Mr David Barrass



A new gate access to the newly built housing

West Beckham Affordable Housing Scheme: by District Cllr Mr Callum Ringer

The affordable housing currently being constructed on Sheringham Road and Church Road is very near completion. There have been one or two hold ups from utility companies however it is hoped that the first local families will be moving in to the properties in July.

Both of these schemes are known as 'rural exception sites', which mean they are only permitted because they will meet the needs of those with a direct proven local connection to West Beckham or a surrounding parish (Bodham, Upper Sheringham, Matlaske, East Beckham & Gresham). To be eligible you must first be on the North Norfolk District Council housing register and then meet the following band 1 or 2 criteria: Band 1 local connection would include: anyone who is living in the parish or adjoining parishes and has lived there for at least five years, or has been employed there for at least five years, or lived there for five out of the last ten years, or has immediate family member who has lived there for at least five years. Band 2 local connection would be very similar but the time required would be two years.

The housing will be officially 'opened' later this year once residents have moved in.

For more information on joining the housing register please email:
housing@north-norfolk.gov.uk

See Facebook Bodham and Beckham Community Noticeboard for regular updates from Callum Ringer, your District Councillor.



St Helen and All Saints, West Beckham:

By Cllr Mrs Julia Dovey

The church is possibly unique in one respect noted by Pevsner, because it is not only shingled on the outside, it is shingled on the inside as well. It is said that building materials were brought from the old churches, but in all honesty this is hard to see. Only the lower part of the chancel arch appears to be old here, although I did wonder about the tracery in the east window. At the west end is a clear rose window, (our Beckham Bulletin Logo) and below it the font is like a crisp little wedding cake. The shingle of the walls is banded with red brick in the approved Puginesque style, and the interior is stunningly clean, obviously well-loved and looked after. On the upper banding, evangelical texts now more than a century old are fading, but still a touchstone to the recent past.

The church was built and consecrated in 1891 and replaced the churches of St Helen, East Beckham and All Saints, West Beckham. The architects were Habershon and Faulkner of London. Stones from the two former churches were reused in the construction. The sites of the original churches can be visited. The Site of the medieval church in West Beckham is in the currently used graveyard while the site in East Beckham, accessed by a short footpath across the stream, is now abandoned and neglected.



See the website for the **Weybourne Group of Churches** for details of services but also we have been advised of a new service starting at the church! **Every 3rd Sunday in the month** there will be a **9AM service of Celtic Praise**.



Local news can be found on Facebook 'Bodham & Beckham Community Noticeboard' or check out 'Bodham & Beckham Village Hall' Facebook page.



What's on at Bodham & Beckham Village Hall

Your Eco-friendly solar powered village hall hosts lots of regular activities and we are always looking to add to the current offerings. Booking the hall couldn't be easier so if you need a venue for a meeting, party or activity of some kind, please get in touch. Local rate for villagers is only £9 per hour, so contact us now and help keep this valuable community asset running.

Website <https://sites.google.com/view/bodhambeckhamvillagehall>

Regular Events

Craft Club

Alternate Wednesdays 2-4pm. Bring any craft of your choosing and join in the conversation. £3 per meeting. Refreshments served. Just turn up or contact Helen Bruford on 01263 588122 or helenbruford@aol.com Next meetings are Wednesday 4th & 18th June.

Community Cafe

Last Saturday of the month 10am-12.00pm. Come along on Saturday 28th June and join us for a hot drink, something to eat and a chat with your fellow villagers the old fashioned way..... face to face.

North Norfolk Photographic Society

Like photography? Come along and join this award-winning group of local photographers on Wednesday the 18th June for the AGM & Summer Social. Full details can be found on nnps.uk

Car Boot Sale

June to September there will be a weekly **Sunday car boot sale** on the playing field 10am-2pm.

Other groups who regularly use the hall include a Computer Group, Music Appreciation Group, Yoga class, Sound Bath, Sewing Group, as well as a monthly Bazaar and Mind Body and Spirit Fayre.

For more details on any of the above please email us and we will pass your details on to the relevant people. If you would prefer to call, please phone 07958 755270. If we are unable to answer, leave a message and we will phone you back on our return.

Kindest regards

Patrick Spurgeon

Chairman, Bodham & Beckham Village Hall
bodhambeckham.villagehall@gmail.com
Mobile: 07958 755270



Felbeck Trust Trustee, Val Stubbs, has written the following report:

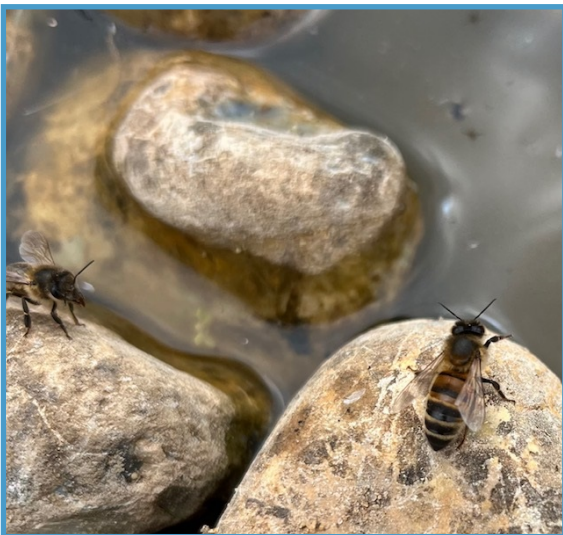


Felbeck Trust has been busy at the three sites that it manages for wildlife in East and West Beckham, carrying out routine maintenance as well as some one-off tasks.

At West Beckham Old Allotments, the focus has been on managing the hedgerows. In places we have reduced the height of the ancient Hawthorns to lower the risk of them being blown over in the increasing number of winter storms

that we are experiencing. The new hedges that we have planted over the past few years have been cared for, clearing away the Alexanders and other plants that threaten to overwhelm the saplings. The liner of the new pond had been gnawed by a rodent, so we have protected exposed areas with turf – it looks nicer too! During the spring drought, the Honey Bees have been taking advantage of the shallow edges of the pond to get a drink. The new guard has been installed around the Jubilee apple tree; the tree is growing well and this year it flowered for the first time. As the site matures, it is becoming increasingly attractive to wildlife, with new sitings by Felbeck Trust Bird Club including Firecrest, Lesser Redpoll, Siskin, Waxwing and Yellow-browed Warbler, while we discovered our First Harvest Mouse nest during one of our summer work parties,

and a Weasel was also spotted recently by one of our volunteers while he was mowing the paths.



At East Beckham Common we have cleared an area of Bracken which has allowed the wild flowers to flourish, including beautiful Bluebells. Meanwhile, at West Beckham Green, a patch of Bracken has been cut back to allow the spring bulbs, particularly the Snowdrops, to put in their annual appearance. The spate of winter storms blew down a number of trees, and these have been removed from the pathways, with the branches used to line the paths and create log piles for wildlife.

If you would like to find out more about Felbeck Trust, have a look at our website <https://www.felbecktrust.org.uk/>. We are always looking for volunteers to help deliver our habitat management programme, so if this appeals to you, please

contact us on enquiry@felbecktrust.org.uk. We also publish a quarterly online newsletter, so let us know if you would like to be added to our mailing list.

EAST AND WEST BECKHAM NEWS

The Parish Council would be interested to hear from Residents who would like to stand as a Parish Councillor. Have your say and help guide the community. If you would like to join the parish council or would like to give feed back please contact our Parish Clerk Mr John Stibbons.

The Bulletin is still edited by Kathryn Lord who used to be on the Parish Council however as she has moved away from the village we are now considering ways to combine the Bulletin into the monthly Newsletter created in Bodham. Do you have any views or would like to help?

There will be no summer Horticultural show this year as the organisers stood down last year.

Contacts

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- ❖ Mel Clark 01263 58840 melclarke58@gmail.com GOOD NEIGHBOUR Co Ordinator

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