

The

Reeve's Tale

News | Events | Local Services

Magazine

July 2026

FREE



Bawdeswell & Foxley



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WELCOME

Hopefully everyone is enjoying this time of the year and the children and young people are looking forward to their summer break. Do remember that during the school holidays the village hall will be open weekdays every afternoon for drinks, ice creams and light refreshments. A big thank you to all the volunteers who will be running this!

Also, a date for your diaries in August, the annual Summer Sizzle at Bawdeswell village hall complete with a band, yard sale and a Barbeque - 15th August, 6.30-9pm. See you there!

Best wishes to all the children and young people who may be moving or changing school or leaving school, college or Uni.

Enjoy your summer!

Anne and the Team

Next copy deadline

15th July 2026

Please email

reevestale.magazine@gmail.com

Send your stories, letters and ideas to

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or call us on 01362 685308.

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Ian Templeman

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FOXLEY

VILLAGE HALL

TO BOOK

Please Contact

Helen Mears

Tel: 01362 688251

Email : helenmears@pobroadband.co.uk

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WHAT'S ON

July Events

| Event | Date | Location/Time |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| Foxley Coffee Morning | Weds 1 st July | Foxley Village Hall 10am |
| Bawdeswell Parish Council Meeting | Thurs 2 nd July | Bawdeswell Village Hall 7pm |
| Picnic Service | Sun 5 th July | St Thomas's Church, Foxley 3pm, see page 42 for details |
| Café Philosophique | Tues 7 th July | Bawdeswell Village Hall 7.30pm |
| Knit and Natter | Thurs 9 th July | Bawdeswell Village Hall 2-4pm |
| Book Group | Thurs 9 th July | Bawdeswell Village Hall 7.30pm |
| Bawdeswell Village Cinema | Sat 11 th July | Bawdeswell Village Hall 6.30 for 7.30pm |
| Mobile Library | Tues 21 st July | Bawdeswell from 11.10am @ village hall onwards, see page 33 for details |
| Knit and Natter | Thurs 23 rd July | Bawdeswell Village Hall 2-4pm |
| Foxley Coffee Morning | Weds 5 th August | Foxley Village Hall 10am |
| Foxley Parish Council Meeting | Thurs 6 th August | Foxley Village Hall 7pm |

OTHER LOCAL EVENTS

| Event | Date | Location/Time |
|--|--|---|
| Reepham Lions Bingo Night | Weds 1 st July | 7.45pm Stimpson's Piece Hall, Reepham, see page 13 for details |
| Reepham WI Meeting | Thurs 16 th July | 7.30pm St Michaels Church Hall, Reepham see page 11 for details |
| Reepham Artists & Makers Showcase Exhibition | Sat 18 th & Sun 19 th July | 10am-4pm Bircham Centre, Reepham see page 11 for details |
| Gala Concert with The Festival Choir, Bawdeswell | Sat 18 th July | 7pm St Michaels Church, Reepham see page 40 for details |
| Reepham Gardening Club | Tues 21 st July | 7.15pm Reepham Town Hall, see page 11 for details |
| Jeeves & Wooster in Perfect Nonsense | Sun 26 th July | Bylaugh Hall from 12pm, see page 38 for details |

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WEDNESDAYS

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10am or 11.30am



FRIDAYS

Bawdeswell V.H.

10am

✉ Jo@keep-active.co.uk

✉ sam@keep-active.co.uk

☎ 07941086603

WHAT'S ON

| Regular Events | Time/Date | Location |
|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Zumba Fitness | Mon 10 – 11am | Bawdeswell Village Hall |
| Short Mat Bowls | Mon 2 – 4pm | Foxley Village Hall |
| Hub Cafe | Tues 10 – 12pm | Bawdeswell Village Hall |
| Keep Active | Wed 10 – 11am | Bawdeswell Village Hall |
| Keep Active | Wed 11.30 – 12.30pm | Bawdeswell Village Hall |
| FitSteps | Thurs 7 – 8pm | Bawdeswell Village Hall |
| Keep Active | Fri 10 – 11am | Bawdeswell Village Hall |
| Bridge Club | Fri 1.30pm | Bawdeswell Village Hall |
| Short Mat Bowls | Fri 2 – 4pm | Foxley Village Hall |
| Hatha Yoga | Sat 8.45 – 9.45am | Bawdeswell Village Hall |
| Games Afternoon | Sat 1.30 – 4.30pm | Bawdeswell Village Hall |

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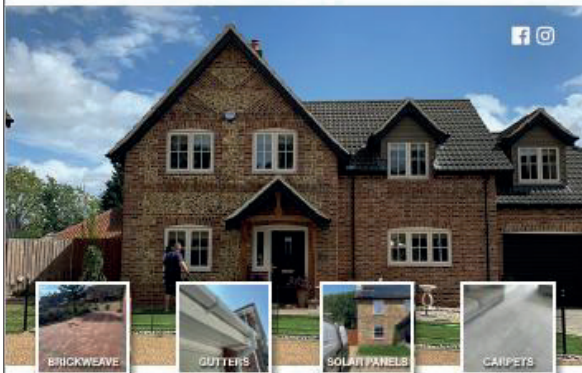
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EVENTS INFORMATION

REEPHAM GARDENING CLUB

Tuesday 21st July at 7.30pm

Companion Planting for a Balanced Garden - Ian Bedford, Retired Research Entomologist & Consultant

Many plants have properties that can either attract or repel bugs. This talk explains some of them and how they can be used in our gardens to create a natural balance system for attracting nature and keeping pests under control.

Meetings held at Town Hall, Church St, Reepham NR10 4JW

New members and visitors always welcome.

Members: £2.00, non-members: £3.00 (inc. tea/coffee and cake).

The garden club desperately needs more committee members: if your new year resolution was to get more involved in your local community, this could be the ideal time to start. **Please contact Jeff Johnson for more information on 01362 680066 or visit our website: www.Reephamgardenclub.org.uk or email jeffandcaroljohnson@yahoo.co.uk.**

REEPHAM WI

Thursday 16th July at 7.30 pm

Belinda Buxton from SOS Bus Norwich.

Belinda will share the inspiring story of the SOS Bus, the safe haven at the heart of Norwich's nightlife, covering its founding, growth, success, and the dedication and stamina of the volunteers who keep the service running.

Reepham WI is always pleased to welcome new ladies who would like to enjoy friendship, laughter, learning and community involvement in a warm and supportive environment.

For more information about us, please visit our website or alternatively contact:

Brenda Gostling Tel: 07760 458957 Email: reephamwi@gmail.com

Meetings held at St Michael's Church Hall, Reepham

REEPHAM ARTISTS AND MAKERS

Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th July 10am - 4pm

Showcase Exhibition

Reepham Artists and Makers (RAM) will be holding their annual 'Showcase' exhibition on Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th July 10am - 4pm, in the Bircham Centre Reepham NR10 4JJ. We are 15 local artists and will be showing a variety of arts including: ceramics, gilding, glass, jewellery, painting, textiles and wood. **Contact: reepham.artistsmakers@gmail.com**

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LETTERS

Wanted

Do you like photography? Have you any photos/images that we could use for the front cover of the Reeves Tale?

If so, could you send them via email to

reevestale.magazine@gmail.com

Thanks

Anne and team

Reepham Lions Bingo Night

Wednesday 1st July at 7.45pm at Stimpson's Piece Hall, Reepham.

Cash prizes based on the money raised on the night for the winners of lines and cards, including the special 'flyer' round. We'll be giving cash prizes for our raffle too, awarding half the amount raised on the raffle to the lucky winners.

You are welcome to bring your own refreshments to enjoy at your table, including alcohol if you wish. We will have teas and coffees on sale for those who would like a hot drink.

All the proceeds of the evening will be used by Reepham Lions to support good causes, mostly in the local area.

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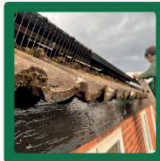
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LETTERS

Dear Editor,

Please would the thoughtless young men who drive their bikes and scooters at breakneck speeds along The Street in Bawdeswell give a thought to the people who live there.

For their information: The Street has a 20mph speed limit. The pavements in some places are very narrow and I am concerned that one day there will be a fatal accident. I have already witnessed a cat being killed and the person responsible driving off leaving other people to deal with the resulting aftermath, including the very upset owner.

The noise and revving up of engines is very distressing to both humans and animals, particularly with the coming of warmer weather when windows are open.

If you are either the owners/parents who own these machines please think about the effect you are having on your local community.

May I also request that car, van and lorry drivers take note that the speed limit is 20mph.

Thank you.

Name and address supplied.

Bawdeswell disturbances

For two weekends in a row we've had loud music pumped out in the open air, from two different houses, till very late in the evening. Can we consider and respect our neighbours and each other, because on nice evenings, I think most people would like to sit out and relax in peace!!

Name and address supplied

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Monday at 10am

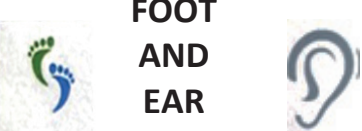
ONLY £6.50 per class

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For more details contact Laura

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VILLAGE VIEWS

Ermentrude and Sid

Ermentrude loved Sid but every now and again longed for some 'me' time.

One Tuesday coffee morning whilst consuming a rather delicious choux pastry, she overheard a conversation regarding a men's club. 'Yes, we held a survey and guess what 60% of us don't use moisturiser.'

'Would that appeal to Sid?' she ruminated, knowing how difficult it had been to get him to use aftershave and the problem she had encountered weaning him off Brylcreem.

She knew Men's Clubs had originated in Australia and had now spread worldwide, broadening out to encompass workshops to help local communities as well as providing a support system and a meeting place for social and recreational activities.

'What do you do?' she asked. 'Well we meet up, share our latest cooking endeavour, (blimey those scones last week were something else!), share the occasional bawdy joke or story (a bit like the Reeve in Chaucer's Canterbury Tales), provide support if one of us needs it, talk about fast cars, tips on gardening and minor repairs, a bit of gossip (never salacious!) and the state of the country'.

'Are there any rules?' Ermentrude asked. 'We like to sit barefoot, came the rather surprising response from a stalwart member of the group waggling his bushy eyebrows, 'it helps us concentrate and feel grounded'. 'Great', thought Ermentrude, forever a pragmatist, 'I'll book him an appointment with one of the Foot practitioners advertising in the Reeves Tale, he can sort his corns and join the group'.

So win, win all round, Sid is now a valued member of the group and his rock buns are legendary, the group are undertaking the occasional community project, a trip to try out the circuit at Silverstone is on the cards, the odd bit of gossip is shared amongst mates, Ermentrude has crossed corn plasters off her shopping list, has more time for herself and as a special treat Sid will share one of the milder bawdy jokes.

The latest poll showed 60% now using moisturiser.

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VILLAGE NEWS

Bawdeswell Village Hall Update

Once again, a lively group of volunteers met at the Village Hall on the first Bank Holiday in May to plan ahead for events in the forthcoming months. A big thank you to Jo who diaries in everyone who books to use our facilities and ensures that there are people to both open and close the Hall, setting it up for the different requirements and where needed supplying refreshments. Thank you to all the volunteers who undertake these arrangements.

Lindsay who is the treasurer informed us that over the past three years, donations received from people attending both the weekly Hub Coffee morning on a Tuesday and the monthly Soup and Puds have steadily risen. So, a big thank you to all of you who come along to support these and especially to the volunteers who turn up early to prepare and set up and stay behind to clear away. Without the on-going dedication of Josie, Carol and Colleen there might well be a problem! A very heartfelt thank you to everyone who supplies the cakes and savouries, soups and puddings, the majority of which are donated. So please do continue to come along and support these events and put a reasonable donation into the pot for whatever you may help yourself to!

Lindsay informed us that for the first year ever, last year the income raised from lettings has covered our expenditure/outgoings. This has largely been achieved due to the savings achieved from having the solar panels installed. Once again, a successful Quiz evening was held in May, thank you to Chris for masterminding this event.

We look forward to ensuring the Hall is open once again for children and families during the forthcoming school summer break, and all the volunteers at the meeting signified their willingness to take part. Carolyn, the Chair of the Village Hall Committee thanked everyone for their on-going support. We also briefly discussed the Summer Sizzle to be held on 15th August, a date for your diaries!

Don't forget we are taking a break from Soup and Pud during June, July and August.

Contacts:

Chair: Chris Leppard – 01362 688 774

Vice-Chair: Carolyn Good - 01362 688 944

Bookings: Jo Porter – 01362 688 887



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VILLAGE NEWS

Date for Your Diary

FREE ENTRY

**SATURDAY
15TH AUGUST
6.30 - 9PM**

BAWDESWELL VILLAGE HALL

**SUMMER SIZZLE
AND
YARD SALE**

FOOD FROM 7.15PM

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**BAWDESWELL
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SUMMER AFTERNOON CAFÉ

**Bawdeswell Village Hall
will be open 2 – 4pm weekdays
20th July – 28th August
(weather permitting)**

VILLAGE NEWS

BAWDESWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Do you want to make a difference in your community? Do you have some spare time to give? Why not become a school governor?

At Bawdeswell Primary School, we are so proud of our school and we are committed to making sure it's the very best it can be for our children. In all that we do, we are supported by our governors who share that commitment.

Now, we're looking for more governors to join us: **could this be you?**

No experience needed just a passion to help and be part of your local community.

For more information and an informal chat please contact Jennie at the school (email: office@bawdeswellprimary.org.uk tel: 01362 688282)

We Grow Together

FOXLEY NEWS

Foxley Coffee Morning

The date of the next coffee morning will be **Wednesday 1st July, 10:00 – 12 noon**. All welcome to join us for coffee, cake and a chance to meet up with your neighbours. Advance warning: coffee morning next month will be on Wednesday 5th August between 10 am and noon.

St Thomas's Church – Sunday 5th July at 3pm

There will be an informal **Picnic Service** outdoors in the churchyard with the Revd. Richard Turk.

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CLUBS AND SOCIETIES



Book Group

The Book Group meets in the Village Hall. We meet on the **second Thursday** of each month, starting at **7:30pm**. Each member pays an annual Group Subscription Fee currently £25, to cover our room hire and library charges. New members are welcome and are invited to attend for two meetings before deciding to join the group and pay their subscription.

'Christ on a Bike' by Orla Owen

We had a long and interesting discussion about this book, we buzzed with ideas, trying to fill in some of the 'unspoken gaps'. One thing we all agreed on, it's a creepy story! Thanks to a member of our group who has summarised the book and some of our thoughts:- 'Christ on a Bike' is set in Wales where I both lived and worked in the 1960's. Sadly these were not some of my best years so my recollections and experiences and feelings of that time coloured my view of this book especially as for some of that time I lived in Pembrokeshire.

The author, Orla Owen, does draw you into the story very quickly and several reviews of the book note that other readers read it all in one go. I persevered, but it became quite a struggle to get to the end. I found in places, the writing was very dense and dark and even morbid although to be fair there are lighter moments. The book made me think about how I would react if I was placed in a similar situation to Cerys, and the real dilemma it placed on her, having to abide by very stringent rules. Especially when her personality urged her to share her good fortune with others and to spread happiness. But, if she had followed her instincts, would the consequences have been different?

The exploration of the concept of money being able to buy 'happiness' is also well done. The dynamic and the difference between the two sisters, was I felt very well drawn, insightful and powerful. The growing unease of being monitored and checked was also very well described and the reoccurring appearance of the man on the bike rather creepy. One has to ponder how powerful and influential this group was within the community. The ending was a bit of a shock but clearly what happened to Cerys had happened previously and was set up to happen yet again! It is interesting to note that Orla Owen has written a follow up book which concentrates on the role of the monitoring group! It is currently with her publishers.'

We are currently reading **'The House on Needless Street'** by **Catriona Ward** for discussion at our next meeting on 9th July.

Enquiries: Carolyn 01362 688944

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CLUBS AND SOCIETIES



Bawdeswell Bowls Club

Bawdeswell Bowls club have had some very close games in the first month of the 2026 season winning or losing on the last end and with most teams finding the Bawdeswell green very easy to play. It is beginning to play very well.

Here are the latest results:-

| | | | | | |
|----------------|-------|------|-----|---|----|
| Whinburgh | away | won | 6 | - | 2 |
| Alldus Park | away | draw | 4 | - | 4 |
| Broom Green | home | draw | 4 | - | 4 |
| Reepham Town | away | won | 6 | - | 2 |
| Sheringham | away | lost | 0 | - | 10 |
| Cawston. | home | won | 9 | - | 1 |
| Fakenham Town. | home | won | 6 | - | 3 |
| Cawston. | K. O. | Cup | won | | |

There is still time for new players to have a try. Contact: **Paul on mobile 07796 964574 home 01362 668195 email paul.digby5@hotmail.co.uk** you will be made most welcome.



Bawdeswell Knit and Natter

July dates are 9th & 23rd

2 - 4 pm at the Village Hall. Come along and join us. Refreshments will be available.

Our Numbers are dwindling and we are in danger of closing.

Use It Or Lose It.

Enquiries: **Josie Beach 01362 688869.**



Bintree Bowls Club

We have entered 3 Leagues, the Cawston League which is an evening league, and the Hempton and Age UK Leagues which are afternoons. We have a lovely green to play on which is behind Bawdeswell Village Hall and we have regular roll up sessions throughout the season as well as inter-club competitions.

We are always looking for new players; it does not matter if you have not played before, coaching can be given, all you need is a pair of flat shoes. Chances are that if you live in Bawdeswell or Foxley you probably know somebody who is a member so why not give it a go, have a little exercise, fresh air and sunshine (hopefully) and meet new friends.

Please contact **Nick Mears on 07947 860922** or speak to anyone you know who already plays.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES



Bridge Club

The JayCee Bridge Club meets in the Village Hall on Friday afternoons at 1.30pm. Whilst we aspire to play well, our range of bridge abilities means that it's really bridge for fun. No regular partners are needed. If you think you might like to start playing bridge then you are welcome to come along and watch to begin with.

Please contact Patsy for information, or to confirm a session is to take place.
Contact: **Patsy Catchpole 01362 688352**



Cafe Philosophique

Finding good reasons for everyday beliefs

We meet in Bawdeswell Village Hall, every first Tuesday at 7:30. Everyone coming is asked to contribute to the cost of our room hire fee.

Next meeting: **Tuesday 7th July – ‘What you may not know about Elizabeth Fry’**

Contact: **Peter: 01362 688944**



Festival Choir Bawdeswell

The Festival Choir, based in Bawdeswell, has established itself as a vibrant high standard female concert choir. The hourlong programmes from 'Bach to Broadway' delight audiences with the repertoire that spans from classical to modern, and everything else in between, ensuring something for everyone.

The choir is committed to delivering music of the highest calibre and welcomes enthusiastic singers with some experience. If you are interested in joining, there are vacancies across all voice sections. We rehearse for an hour on a Saturday morning from 10am and Wednesday evening from 7pm at All Saints Church, allowing greater flexibility with attendance.

To find out more or arrange an informal chat, please **contact Musical Director James Lilwall at 01362 688499 or pjlilwall@hotmail.com**.

You can also visit the choir's Facebook page for updates. New members are warmly encouraged!

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES



Foxley Village Hall Coffee Morning

The date of the next coffee morning will be **Wednesday, 1st July, 10:00 – 12 noon**. All welcome to join us for coffee, cake and a chance to meet up with your neighbours. Advance warning: coffee morning next month will be on Wednesday 5th August between 10 am and noon.

If you need transport, please contact Jo 688981 or for any other enquiries please contact **Linda 688488 or Gillian 688955**.



Games Afternoon

We meet in Bawdeswell Village Hall, every Saturday 1.30 – 4.30pm. Games played:- Uno, Mexican Train, Scrabble. Other suggestions welcome. 1st visit free, normal price £5. Contact: **Anne 01362 685308**.



Short Mat Bowls

Foxley Village Hall Every Monday and Friday **2 - 4pm**

New members welcome.

To find out more, call **Frank on 01362 688089** or **Carole on 01362 688567**.



Lakeside Pilgrims Bowls Club

We have had some lovely spring warm evenings so far this season. Here are the results for the Whissonsett Leagues first five games:

| | | | |
|----------------|------|------|--------|
| Hempton | away | won | 10 - 0 |
| Whissonsett | home | won | 8 - 2 |
| Fakenham | home | loss | 4 - 6 |
| Swanton Morley | away | loss | 0 - 10 |
| Gressenhall | home | win | 8 - 2 |

There is still time to visit us if you wish to have ago. We are small but friendly club, please contact Sue on sue.purse@gmail.com

If you wish to play please contact me on sue.purse@gmail.com.

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SERVICES



Community Car Scheme: Bawdeswell, Bylaugh, Foxley

Someone once said “ask a busy person if you need something doing”. Whilst this is often a true sentiment, it really is the case that “many hands make light work”.

This would certainly be the case for our Community Car Scheme, but it is getting the “many hands” that is the difficulty!

With volunteering numbers down to record lows after the pandemic, the voluntary sector is finding it more difficult than ever. I seem to be assailed on all fronts to become a Scout Leader again, join the Rotary Club or even help out with the turtles on Cape Verde, all of which I would love to do if I had the time!

My dream for the Community Car Scheme is everyone doing a very little bit and making this “light work” in helping our neighbours, many of whom have “done their bit” in times gone by.

Can you Help?

Can you spare an hour or two a month? We are looking for volunteers to keep the service going.

Are you able to drive your car to the hospital or local surgery? The scheme enables reimbursement of 55p per mile. We do not carry wheelchair users. There is a DBS check and medical form which is signed by your GP. The joining process is simple.

You will make a difference in your local community.

David Wheeler, Volunteer Coordinator
07909 901015
davidawheeler@sky.com

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SERVICES



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21st July

| | | |
|------------|---------------|---------------|
| BAWDESWELL | VILLAGE HALL | 11:10 -11.35 |
| BAWDESWELL | PARADISE ROAD | 11:40 – 11.50 |
| BAWDESWELL | CHAUCER CLOSE | 11.55 – 12.10 |
| FOXLEY | VILLAGE HALL | 12:20 – 12.35 |

Can't get to the Mobile Library, but have access to the internet, then why not try 'Libby'?



Current Opening Hours and Locations

| | | |
|---------|-------------------|------------------|
| Tuesday | Bawdeswell Church | 9.00am - 12.00pm |
| Friday | Bawdeswell Church | 9.00am - 12.00pm |

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PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING OF BAWDESWELL PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 4th JUNE 2026 AT 7.00pm

**Present: C. Good (Acting Chair), M. Bailey, R. Hannent and A. Hartley-Walder.
Mrs. J Boxall (Clerk) Members of the public – 1**

Councillor Vacancy

The Council are still seeking a new Councillor and would welcome applications from members of the community who are interested in making a difference in their community. Please see website for further information or contact the Parish Clerk. The Council will consider applications at their meeting in September.

Breckland Local Plan

There is no further update on the Local Plan. The next stage (Regulation 19) is expected in July with Breckland's final submission to the Planning Inspectorate at the end of the year.

Highways

It was confirmed that NCC Highways had re-surfaced the Street in Bawdeswell with a tar and chipping dressing rather than repairs. It was noted that the one seriously worn-out section of the tarmac, at the T junction of the Street with Norwich/Reepham Road, was the one section that has not been repaired or dressed. It is hoped that this means that Highways are going to undertake a full repair and re-surface of this area. Clerk to contact NCC Highways to appraise them of the above and to enquire what exactly are they going to do about the junction area of the Street and enquire about the time scale for replacing the white lining / highlighting parking restrictions.

Other matters

The Clerk contacted Norfolk Police regarding the complaints of noisy bikes on The Street and on the Reepham Road. A response received confirmed that concerns have been forwarded to the Safer Neighbourhood Team and that moving forward there are option for police assistance but residents are encouraged to report incidences at the time it happens to assist the Police to catch and deal with offenders along with gaining as much evidence as possible including registrations of vehicles involved, descriptions and if possible digital evidence such as CCTV or pictures to enable a targeted response. <https://www.norfolk.police.uk/ro/report/>

PARISH COUNCIL

Bawdeswell continued....

Finance

The balance of the Community account as at 31st May 2026 was confirmed as £29170.62, Business Money Manager (Earmarked reserves) was £43989.58.

The next Parish Council Meetings will be held on Thursday 2nd July 2026 and Thursday 3rd September 2026 at 7pm. These meetings will be held at the Village Hall. Members of the public are warmly invited to attend. The Council usually meet on the first Thursday of every month except for January & August. Please check the website or noticeboard for any changes.

If you have any concerns please contact the Parish Clerk Jo Boxall, White House, Pettywell, Reepham, NR10 4RN, Tel: 01603 879480, Email: clerk@bawdeswell.norfolkparishes.gov.uk

Full draft minutes from this meeting and minutes from previous meetings, including financial / audit information and policies can be found on the Parish Council website <http://bawdeswell.norfolkparishes.gov.uk>



Scissor Hands
36 Norwich Street, Dereham NR19 1BX
e-mail: scissor_hands_dereham@yahoo.com

Opening Hours

| | |
|-----------|-------------|
| Sunday | closed |
| Monday | closed |
| Tuesday | 9:00 - 6:00 |
| Wednesday | 9:00 - 6:00 |
| Thursday | 9:00 - 6:00 |
| Friday | 9:00 - 7:00 |
| Saturday | 9:00 - 5:00 |

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PARISH COUNCIL

THE FOXLEY ANNUAL PARISH MEETING & ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS WERE HELD ON THURSDAY 21st MAY 2026 AT 7pm

Present; Cllr N. Mears (Chair), Cllr G. Blyth, Cllr L. Rose, Cllr G. Blatchford and Cllr M. Watson, Mrs. J Boxall (Clerk) Members of the public – 1

District Cllr G. Bambridge

Planning

No planning applications or decisions were received.

Election of Chair / Vice Chair

Cllr N. Mears was re-elected as Chair and Cllr G. Blatchford was elected as Vice Chair

Finance

The Annual Accounts 2025-26 were approved, and copies of these documents can be viewed on the Council's website. The Council declared themselves exempt from Limited Assurance Review.

The Chairman's annual report

The past year has seen a decision on major reorganisation in Norfolk Councils. In 2028 both Breckland District Council and Norfolk County Council will be abolished to be replaced by three unitary councils in Norfolk of which Foxley will be placed in West Norfolk, just inside the boundary with East.

This will be a major upheaval which will lead to disruption in services and great expense while being executed and will no doubt lead to yet further increases in resident's council taxes. We have had the farcical situation of County Council elections being cancelled then under legal pressure, being reinstated to be held a year later in 2026 and then having another election in 2027 for the new authority, all huge expense which the country could do without at the moment. Also, for the first time in my memory, we no longer have a Conservative representing our ward or Conservative control of the County Council, having been replaced by Reform.

A Local Plan update was carried out by Breckland as the Government pushed for increased housebuilding. The result was for Foxley that no new sites were allocated although we were told that there would be a 5% increase in dwellings in Foxley over the life of the plan, but no indication of allocated sites were given. Given Bawdeswell has been allocated 140 new dwellings we have got off lightly.

On local matters we had a contentious planning application for the re-development of Street Farm, which was refused on various grounds, which leads me to believe that in the near future we will not see anything happen on this site.

PARISH COUNCIL

Foxley continued....

A Parish Partnership bid for funds towards pedestrian signs on the A1067 has been very badly handled by the Highway department and we have yet to make a decision on whether to proceed with this.

My thanks go to our Clerk Jo Boxall, for her commitment and efforts throughout the year to keep us running and to my fellow Councillors for their input, also to the Village Hall Committee for their work particularly Gillian and Linda.

Pedestrian Signage

Highways had forwarded a quote for consideration in excess of the £2000 quote previously suggested. A quote for £3336.11 for 2 pedestrian signs and posts was received requiring the Parish Council to fund 50% - £1668.05. The cost was due to the signage being on the A1067 so traffic management will be required (this was already acknowledged in the initial quote given).

Following discussion, acknowledging the increase in costs (The Clerk had provided a revised budget) and debating the likely effectiveness of the signage, it was agreed to go ahead with the signage. It was agreed to raise a complaint with the County Councillor highlighting the difficulty in obtaining a quote and the large difference in quotes received.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on 6th August 2026. This meeting will be held at the Village Hall. Members of the public are warmly invited to attend. The Council usually meet four times per year. Please check the website or noticeboard for any changes.

If you have any concerns please contact the Parish Clerk Jo Boxall, White House, Pettywell, Reepham, NR10 4RN, Tel: 01603 879480, Email: foxleyparishclerk@outlook.com

Full draft minutes from this meeting and minutes from previous meetings, including financial / audit information and policies can be found on the Parish Council website <https://foxleyparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk>

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CHURCH NEWS

Bawdeswell Church News




Thank you those of you who have contributed so far to the cemetery tidy up. The work continues, but the hedge work will have to wait till the Autumn.

Lis Glen's raffle will be drawn at the end of June. The magazine has gone to press before the draw, so results will be published next month. Thank you all who have supported the fundraising.

We continue to welcome several people to our Sunday service relayed on Zoom. If you would like to try that out, download the Zoom app and on the Home page select "Join a Meeting". You will be asked to fill in the Meeting ID which is 656 174 6525 and the Passcode: TwKH7n

Robin Taylor, Churchwarden



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CHURCH NEWS

Reverend Richard Reflects

The church is now in Ordinary Time.

For many Sundays, from Trinity Sunday onwards, we continue through this church season. But it isn't really ordinary. Ordinary implies run-of-the-mill, routine, maybe even unremarkable. But I don't think there's any time in the church year that could be labelled like that. Ordinary Time can often be the most likely time for weddings: it covers the majority of the summer and autumn months. Ordinary Time includes the period when we celebrate harvest festivals. Ordinary Time is when we have services to mark the end of the school year and pray for those students who move up into high school or finish their schooling. Ordinary Time tends to see summer fetes and fundraising events. It is when we are most likely to put on holiday clubs for children, and when we hold things like parish barbecues or walks. In a way, all of this is ordinary because it is the stuff that makes up the life of the church. In other ways, it is anything but ordinary.

During Ordinary Time the liturgical colour that we use (as most of the local school children will probably be able to tell from my shoes) is green. It reminds us of growth and life. We use this time to reflect on life in Christ, and there is a focus on the life, teachings and miracles of Christ in the Bible readings on Sundays. The idea is that in this season of growth and harvest, we will also grow in our faith and discipleship.

I will soon be offering Confirmation preparation sessions. Confirmation is a special service during which candidates confirm the promises made for them at baptism, and commit to following Jesus for themselves. This is a great way to grow in discipleship, as preparing for Confirmation helps us to reflect on what it is we believe and why we believe it. If you would be interested in learning more, please do contact me. You can even do so if you would just like to take part in the sessions to explore faith a bit more. We will also be holding discipleship study sessions in September and October, so that will be another way you might want to consider for exploring faith.

Why not use this Ordinary Time to discover the extraordinary?

Revd Richard Turk
Curate-in-Charge of the parishes of Foxley, Foulsham, Lyng, Elsing, Bawdeswell,
Bylaugh, Sparham, and Themelthorpe

St Thomas, Foxley

3pm Sunday, 5th July 2026

An informal Picnic Service in the churchyard*

with Revd. Richard Turk



(*weather permitting - otherwise inside the church)

BAWDESWELL GROUP CHURCH SERVICES

July 2026

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| Wed 1st July | 10.30am | HC | Foulsham |
| Sun 5th July | 10.30am | OASIS | Sparham |
| | 10.30am | HC | Elsing |
| | 10.30am | Words & Praise | BAWDESWELL |
| | 3pm | Picnic Church | FOXLEY |
| Weds 8th July | 10.45am | HC | Foulsham |
| Sun 12th July | 9am | BCP HC | Bylaugh |
| | 10.30am | HC | Foulsham |
| | 10.30am | Words & Praise | Lyng |
| | 10.30am | HC | BAWDESWELL |
| Weds 15th July | 10.30am | HC | Foulsham |
| Sun 19th July | 10.30am | Family Service | BAWDESWELL |
| | 10.30am | HC | Lyng |
| | 6pm | Evensong | Foulsham |
| Weds 22nd July | 10.30am | HC | Foulsham |
| Sun 26th July | 9am | Matins | Bylaugh |
| | 9am | BCP HC | Sparham |
| | 10.30am | Service of the Word | Foulsham |
| | 10.30am | Words & Praise | Elsing |
| | 10.30am | Short Words & Praise | BAWDESWELL |
| Weds 29th July | 10.30am | HC | Foulsham |

A reminder that you can join us on Zoom for the Bawdeswell service any Sunday – Meeting ID: 656 174 6525 Passcode: TwKH7n

Morning Prayer is said at 9am in St Margaret's Lyng on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. All are welcome. A midweek communion service is held at Holy Innocents, Foulsham on Wednesdays at 10:30am.

Other information for our new group of churches can be found in our weekly News in the Pews sheets, available at each service.

The Rev'd Richard Turk, 07721 035009 Email: revdrichardrww@gmail.com

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