October/November

TOSTOCK CHRONICLE

More details and the latest up to date information, including a full colour version of the Chronicle Is available on our village website.

www.tostock.pc.org

2019 Tostock Flower & Vegetable Show







Winner

Faramir Newport won young gardener under 25 for the fourth year running his onion weighed in at a massive 1.66kg beating his last year's record 1kg, he also came 2nd for his giant tomatoes and longest bean and 3rd place for his runner









See Back Page for More winners

Tostock Quiz ? ?? ?? ?? 33 ?? ?? Friday 15 November 2019 **?**? ?? **??** ?? **??** ?? **??** 7pm Village Hall ?? **??** ?? **??** ?? Max. 6 people per team ?? ?? 33 **£1** per person (proceeds to the Village Hall) ?? ?? ?? ?? **??** Refreshments: tea, coffee & biscuits **??** ?? ?? Please bring your own wine/beer, glasses, etc. ?? ?? ?? ?? ?? We look forward to seeing you **??** ?? **?? ??** For further information contact: ?? Diane/Phil: 270317 ?? ?? Vanessa/Adrian: 271272 **??**

Tostock Village 2020 Calendar will be available from November 2019

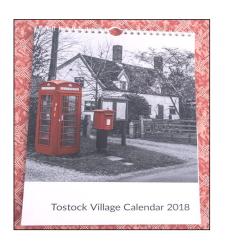
£5 each.

Can be purchased directly by contacting the following

Jim Langlois 01359 270456 Derrick Poole 01359 270197 Gardners Arms

WILL ALSO BE ON SALE AT THE TOSTOCK CHRISTMAS FAYRE

As usual the profits will be shared between the Village Hall and St Andrews Church



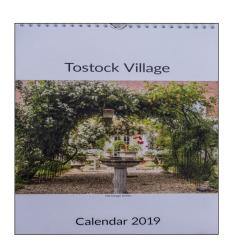
Tostock Village Calender

???

2020

Purchase from contacts above
Order early
to avoid disappointment

See how beautiful it is



Are you worried about your memory?

Not sure what to do next?

Come and speak to your local Community Navigator

Practical information and support is available at

Woolpit, Botesdale and Stanton Health Care Centres.

Contact Dementia Together on

08081 6688000 / www.dementia-together.com



Tostock Village Fete in Spring 2020?



There has been a suggestion that it would be nice to hold a Village Fete on the main village green in the Spring of 2020.

There are many groups in the village who are always willing to run a stall or activity for a fete, but it does require someone to act as a co-ordinater for the event.

Would you (or you & a friend) be willing to co-ordinate this?

If so, please contact Hannah Jones (hotmail.com) to discuss arranging an initial organizing meeting in the coming months.







The **Wedding** of

Andrew Marriott & Lauren Murphy

31st August 2019



On behalf of my son Andrew and his new wife Lauren I would like to thank all those who were involved in making their Wedding such a special day,

Rev'd Katherine Valentine for the beautiful Service,

Elaine Jones for playing the organ,

Jon Walker for raising The Union Flag,

The Bell Ringers,

Dick Hayward for letting us use his field for parking

and last but by no means least The Flower Ladies who once again made The Church look amazing,

I have had so many lovely comments about the flowers,

Thank you all. Sue Marriott.



Mr & Mrs Marriot

East Anglia is renowned for many things but few people will know it can lay claim to being the farm pond capital of England and Wales.



The Tostock village pond is a lovely example of a pond - open, sunny, well vegetated, and full of some quite nusual plants including pond water crowfoot and marsh foxtail grass

According to Oliver Rackham's classic work The History of the Countryside, the biggest concentrations of ponds in the agricultural landscape can be found in mid and south Norfolk and north east Suffolk, as well as in a smaller area in Cheshire

Studying Ordnance Survey maps from the 1920s, Mr Rackham found that these areas boast 30 ponds per square mile, around five times the national average. Some locations are off the scale: the ancient woodland around Wolves Wood near Hadleigh, for example, was found to have 298 ponds per square mile.

Across Suffolk, there are thought to be somewhere in the region of 23,000 ponds.

The reason ponds proliferate in these parts is down to the clay soil found there. Any dip or hole that was created to extract clay to make bricks and the like would hold water and become a pond due to clay's impermeable properties.

Neglected

Traditionally, many of these ponds were well-maintained as part of a farm's cycle of work and played a valuable role providing drinking places for livestock and other services (see box). But post-war many became neglected or were drained as farms looked to maximise their land holding and watered their cattle from troughs.

And as the number of ponds in good working order has declined, so has the wildlife that relies on clean, sunny ponds: namely newts, beetles, snails, dragonflies and frogs, as well as indictor plant species such as stonewort's.

Someone who has spent a lot of the last two decades looking into the often murky world of ponds is Juliet Hawkins, a farm advisor with Suffolk Wildlife Trust who estimates she has surveyed 1,500 ponds since 2003. Her work involves visiting ponds to see what state they are in and the wildlife they maintain, advising landowners on what they can do to improve their ponds for nature and supporting those who commit to working toward bringing their ponds back to pristine.

Rotation

"The problem with old, neglected ponds is that they are shaded by tree growth and silted up with leaf litter," said Ms Hawkins.

"You get this build-up of sediment - once the accumulation reaches six inches or so plants just won't root into it. You'll get emergent plants but aquatic plants that like being in the water, either submerged or floating on the surface, like good clean substrate."

She added: "Historically, farmers would clean their ponds out on rotation: the sediment would be removed after harvest and spread on the fields. It was a good soil improver - light organic matter mixing with the heavy clay soil. "Small trees that had grown around a pond would be coppiced and the wood used for firewood." In the old rotation system, livestock would also come in and help keep the pond margins clear of emergent vegetation, like reed mace, bur-reed and rushes, which unabated will start to trap sediment and spread across the water, and sallow and brambles that seed into the margins.

Livestock would also tread in the mud around the side of ponds, a process known as poaching, creating micro-habitats with their footprints. Seeds that had laid dormant would suddenly germinate while species that require bare mud banks of ponds would benefit - house martins and swallows use the mud to build their nests while many dragonfly species like to warm up on raw clay banks.

Continued



The Tostock village pond

Shallows

Today, much of this work to restore and maintain ponds is carried out by diggers that scoop out sediment and clear banks.

Ms Hawkins says ideally a pond should have a gradual slop into the water, as different habitats exist at different depths. The shallow areas up to around 10cms in depth are the most fertile, as it is here where the water warms up most, creating the conditions for many different plants and an ideal place for frogspawn to develop quickly. A gentle gradient on one side of a pond also mimics how these ponds were created - workman required a gradual slope to remove clay, a form that also provided a point where livestock were able to access the water. One thing that has changed in the world of pond creation or restoration is that traditionally it was thought that having a perfectly smooth bottom to a pond was the ideal. However, current wisdom is that undulating topography on the bottom is the best for wildlife.

Ms Hawkins said: "You want the humps and bumps, so the detritus will fall within the troughs and plants, such as the stoneworts, will continue to grow on the clean substrates found in the raised areas where there is less build-up of sediments."

Ms Hawkins' work was recognised earlier this year with the appearance of slimy-fruited stonewort in a pond in west Suffolk - in botany circles this was a major discovery, as the plant had not been seen in Great Britain since 1959. Two other very rare stoneworts were found in nearby ponds - the nationally scarce clustered stonewort and the endangered tassel stonewort.

Also known as charophytes, stonewort's thrive in clean water and provide underwater shelter and breeding opportunities for aquatic invertebrates, snails and amphibians.

"A lot of people take ponds for granted but they are incredibly rewarding to restore," continued Ms Hawkins. "You start with a dark, shady hole and the following year, you can't believe it. There's water beetles, newts and dragonflies and they have all moved in within a year.

"Pond wildlife is very mobile - beetles and dragonflies are all winged. If you restore a pond, very quickly insects will come in. It is thought that insects colonise a pond by flying on a moonlit night and spotting the water body reflected in the moon. They probably smell it too. Amphibians can walk for miles - it's important for colonising ponds that there are hedges, woodland rides, and grassland meadows around that all act as corridors for wildlife between ponds." She added: "Landowners are thrilled how quickly things come on and are able to maintain their ponds as part of their hedging regime, flailing the edges, and when they have a digger on site, taking out a few scoops of invasive plants in the winter.

"It means they are constantly setting the clock back, as it would have been done by men with spades and handcarts in the past."



The Tostock village pond

Extracts taken from an article published in East Anglian Daily Times on 17th August



Tostock Summer STEM Club (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths)

We held our second Tostock Summer STEM club on Tuesday 20th August at the Village Hall.

It was great to see 23 local Children aged 7 to 12 enjoy a wide range of activities.

These included old favourites such as Water Rockets, Robot Cars and Slime.

New fun STEM activities were making a Scissor lift table, Water experiments such as making a Water filter, constructing a Leonardo Catapult, exploring Magnets and understanding how Cipher coding works.

Interestingly, Slime was most popular followed by Water Rockets.







Thanks to all adults who helped me,







I am now thinking up new activities for summer 2020.

Parents, Teachers, School Governors! I am looking for more local primary schools which are interested in me coming in and helping with STEM activities, bringing in some of my machines.

To date I have been in to approx half the schools in the Thurston Pyramid.

John Parnum STEM Ambassador











3rd TOSTOCK TIDY DAY



On Saturday, 31 August, when more than 25 people met at the Village Hall for the Third Tostock Tidy Day. This time we cut the hedges around the playing field and strimmed the grass on the outside of the playing field, running down Norton Road.

After the work was done refreshments were supplied to revive everyone. Thanks to the ladies who kindly supplied us with drinks and delicious homemade cakes and biscuits.

It was a hugely successful morning. We were amazed at the amount of work completed in such a short time. We would not have been able to do this without you so thank you to everyone who turned out.

For further information or to provide any suggestions you may have to further the aims of this ongoing initiative please contact: jimlanglois@btinternet.com.

OUR NEXT TIDY DAY WILL BE ON THE 26 OCTOBER.

From: Jim Debenham, Brian Jenkins, Adrian Malcom, Anthony Scully and Jim Langlois.







Tostock Village Hall News: October & November 2019

The next meeting of the village Hall Committee is due to take place on Thursday, 3rd October 2019 at the later start time of 8pm.



TOSTOCK FIREWORKS, SAT 2nd NOVEMBER 2019

See Separate Notice for further Information Any further queries, please contact Hannah on hanahgracejones@hotmail.com

Village Hall Book Exchange

All users of the village hall are warmly invited to use the new Book Exchange. All you need to do, when next visiting the village hall, is to bring a book or two that you have recently enjoyed and leave it on the new book shelf in the foyer of the hall. Hopefully within a short time, there will be good selection of much loved reads and one there to tempt you to take home. The bottom shelves will house books for toddlers up to teens.



NB – if you have a large quantity of books to pass on, please continue to either save these for our next village event or take them to a local charity shop.

TOSTOCK'S ANNUAL VILLAGE QUIZ



Friday, 15th Nov 2019 7pm, Tostock Village Hall Teams of up to 6 people



Bring your own Drinks, glasses & snacks (SEE SEPARATE NOTICE FOR MORE INFORMATION)

And Village website

TOSTOCK VILLAGE HALL YOUR LOCAL VENUE

Competitive Rates of Hire Round Tables
Insured for up to 120 people
Good Parking Marquees available for hire

Contact Doreen Buckle on 01359 270605 or tostocktvh@hotmail.co.uk to reserve it for your Event



Parish news



Tostock Village Website

www.tostockpc.org.uk

Visit our website to see the Chronicle in full colour along with other interesting articles and information.

(click on 'our village' in the menu to find the link for the Chronicle)



St Andrew's Church News



We had a very successful Pet Service in August , which now seems a long time ago! This year the pets were all dogs , of varying shapes and sizes , but all being beautifully behaved. They each went to receive a special blessing from Revd. Katherine Valentine, Jay and Julie took photos to mark the occasion.

It was good to see one of the new canine residents of Tostock , from Pamment Close , joining us with her owner , and to see dogs from other villages as well .

The October Coffee Morning will be on **Tuesday Oct** .8th at **10:30am** .Do come and join us at the Village Hall for Coffee , cake and a chat .

The Harvest Festival is on Sept .22nd, and the Harvest Supper is on Sept. 27th, 7:30pm at the village hall.

Another very important event is the annual Christmas Fayre on Saturday November 23rd, with

Lunches being served from midday, lots of stalls and competitions, and the famous Hamper Raffle!

Floodlights for October are sponsored by Mrs . Mary Pettit , in loving memory of Ken and their 68^{th} Wedding Anniversary which would have been on October 6^{th} .

Advance Notice! On **Sunday December 1**st, a special Service will be held at **3pm** to celebrate

20 years since the Church bells were restored .The four original bells were last rung in 1948

And were in a poor condition, so an Appeal Committee was set up to restore them for the

Millennium celebrations . Those who were in the village will remember the fund-raising events,

Fetes on the Green , Dinners , The Bells Ball at Ravenwood Hotel , an Auction , Flower Festivals-

The cost of restoration was estimated at £52,000 ,an enormous sum for a small village , but thanks to all the hard work ,

generous donations from residents, grants from many charities,

Including the Suffolk Guild of Ringers, work began in the summer of 1999. The bells went

to Eayre and Smith at Derby where the four ancient bells were joined by three new ones ,

cast at Taylors of Loughborough .Two new bells were donated and one was provided from the

funds .In November, Tony Baines our bell-hanger, helped by John Pamment our carpenter and builder, installed the new frame.

The bells returned to the tower and on Christmas Eve,1999, the final ropes were hung.

They were rung by the Tostock ringers for the Crib Service at 3pm.

The preacher will be Revd . Carl Melville , who came to learn on our bells!

Everyone is welcome to our celebrations!

Jeanne O'Reilly

TOSTOCK POORS ESTATE.

IF THERE ARE ANY OLDER RESIDENTS OF TOSTOCK (MUST HAVE BEEN A RESIDENT FOR TWO YEARS) WHO WISH TO APPLY FOR THE CHRISTMAS CONTRIBUTION, COULD THEY PLEASE CONTACT SHARON MARKELL TEL 271190 FOR AN APPLICATION FORM. ALL ENQUIRIES TREATED WITH STRICT CONFIDENCE. PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS NEED NOT APPLY.



St Andrew's Church Tostock

(Benefice of Pakenham, Norton & Tostock with Great Ashfield, Hunston & Stowlangtoft)

Rector: Revd Katherine Valentine Tel 01359 235095 Email: katherine@kavalentine.plus.com



SERVICES OCTOBER 2019 - NOVEMBER 2019

Our beautiful and ancient church is open daily for visitors and private prayer.

OCTOBER

6th BENEFICE SERVICE 9.30am for 10am family@church at Pakenham - HARVEST!

13th 9.30am Holy Communion

20th 6pm Evening Prayer & Praise

27th 11am Morning Prayer

NOVEMBER

3rd **BENEFICE SERVICE** 9.30am for 10am family@church at Pakenham - Remember

4pm Memorial service at Norton - see below for details

10th Remembrance Sunday 10.45am REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

17th 6pm Evening Prayer & Praise

24th 11am Morning Prayer

SERVICES AT THE CROFT

Mondays 21st October & 18th November 10am

All welcome to come to this informal act of worship where we sing our favourite hymns, pray for our village and share extremely nice refreshments!





9.30am for 10am - St Mary's Pakenham

Breakfasty refreshments & Crafts available from 9.30am This service on the first Sunday of every month is run by the whole benefice and is the opportunity for all our villages and families to join together in worship and get to know each other.

SUNDAY 6th October - HARVEST SUNDAY 3rd November - REMEMBER

MEMORIAL SERVICES 3rd November 2019

All Saints' Day is on the 1st November and this time of year is traditionally the season when we remember and give thanks for the lives of those we have loved who have died. As in previous years we will be holding Memorial and Thanksgiving Services across the benefice. During the services names will be read out and there will be the opportunity to light a candle in memory of each person, whether named or remembered in silence. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

All Memorial Service dates and times are:

St Mary's Pakenham 3pm (Stowlangtoft names will also be read at this service)

St Andrew's Norton 4pm (Tostock names will also be read at this service)

All Saints Great Ashfield 5pm (Hunston names will also be read at this service)

We will be sending invitations to the families of those for whom we have conducted funerals during the last two years.

However, all are welcome to come no matter how long ago you were bereaved.

In that case please let us know if you would like us to include your loved one's name/s in the service.

Please contact Revd. Katherine Valentine with details (01359 235095).

(NB these memorial services are not to be confused with the **Remembrance Service on November 10th** when we remember those who died and suffered in war).

COUNTRY LIFE - D. POOLE NUMBER 29

For two years in succession 2017 and 2018 Penny and myself spent our main weeks holiday up in Scotland at Aigas Field Centre Ltd, Beauly, Inverness-shire in 2017, and Heatherlea Birding and Wildlife Holidays in 2018 at The Mountview Hotel, Nethybridge Inverness-shire close to where the BBC's Winterwatch was filmed. Both were very good indeed and highly recommended, but the first one 2017 was undoubtedly the better of the two, our hosts Sir John Lister-Kaye and his wife Lady Lucy set up the business 40 years ago on his own estate complete with manmade loch. Aigas House you could almost call a castle. Although we stayed in a beautiful wooden log-cabin our main meals and presentations were in the hall and lounge of Aigas House. Sir John greeted his guests every morning before breakfast and again for a pre-dinner drink in the evenings, whilst Lady Lucy each afternoon welcomed us all back from our day out trips with a tea party, her speciality was her homemade cakes.

There were 28 to 30 guests in all, we were split into four groups of seven to each mini bus when taken out. Everything was inclusive in the price.

One of our reasons for visiting Aigas Field Centre but not the only one was to see and photograph the Scottish Wild Cat which is on the edge of extinction, so for this edition I thought I would like to share my success and talk a little bit about the Wild Cat also known as the Highland Tiger. Since 2011 Aigas Field Centre set up a captive breeding programme, and has been contributing to an important National Programme to bring back the Wild Cat from extinction. The aim is to breed Cats that can be released back into the Wild so human contact has to be kept to an absolute minimum, although I could see the Cats, they couldn't see or smell me.

These photos are taken in captivity in an enclosure and not entirely in the wild unfortunately.

These days they are rarely sighted in the wild.





The mysterious creature hunts silently across the isolated landscape, it may look similar to a household Tabby but this fierce hunter is neither feral nor domesticated. It is a member of a unique race of the Wild Cat (Felixsilvestris) the ancestor of all domestic cats. The Scottish Wild Cat (Felixsilvestris Grampia) was isolated from its European counterparts when the Land Bridge to Europe was lost under the North Sea approximately 8,000 years ago. Now you might ask what the Scottish Wild Cat has to do with Tostock - they were once found across much of Britain so the answer is they may well have roamed all over Tostock way back then. Habitat destruction, hunting for their fur and persecution led to their extinction in England, Wales and Southern Scotland by the end of the 19th century. They are now confined to central and northern Scotland with a stronghold in the Highlands. Not only does it have a limited range the Scottish Wild Cat has a very small population. Its elusive nature makes it difficult to count. It is easily confused with sightings of feral and feral-wild cat hybrids, wild and domestic cats are genetically close and the wild cat freely interbreeds with its domestic relative. Many of the resulting hybrids are remarkably similar to the pure-bred animals. Thus there can only be a few with genes of 100% pure breed Wild Cats left. All of this makes it extremely hard to calculate exact numbers, with the estimates ranging from 35 to 500 pure bred individuals. Either of these figures makes it one of the rarest animals on the earth. It has been legally protected since 1988. In appearance – the Wild Cat has a thick coat, with greyish brown to yellowish brown fur and dark brownish/black stripes, its head is broad and its face flat, the most distinctive part of its anatomy is its tail. This is long, bushy and cylindrical, rather than tapering with a distinct black band around it and a black tip. They vary in body length from 20-30" (50-70 cm), plus a tail about half the length of the body 10-14" (25-35cm). Females are slightly smaller than males. The largest specimens measure 39" (1 m long). Weight ranges between 5 ½ - 16 ½ lbs (2.5 and 7.5 kg). They are superb hunters, with 18 sharp retractable claws for gripping prey and climbing trees, 5 claws on each front paw and 4 on the hind paw. The claws curve backwards, so retracting them when not in use means they do not get caught on surfaces. If they fall, they have the ability to turn in the air. Depending on the height they fall from, this skill help ensure they land on their feet with their legs cushioning the fall. Some facts about Wild Cats - They have no eye-lashes or outer eye lid, but has an inner eye lid known as a nictitating membrane which protects the eye from drying out and damage. The molar teeth are designed for cutting rather than crushing so the Wild Cat eats by slicing its food without much chewing. Wild Cats are bigger and more muscular than a typical domestic cat, its coat is thicker, with a ruffled appearance, and tiger style stripes which makes it ideal for camouflage. Domestic Tabby cats and hybrids can have patches of white in their coat, such as white paws or white patches on their back or sides. Wild Cats have no such markings.

The main difference between the two is the tail. The Wild Cat tail is thick, long and bushy with distinct black bands around it and a black tip. The domestic cat's tail is slim and tapered. The retractable claws are renewed periodically with a new one growing under the old claw. This is shred as an empty sheath. The Wild Cat's fur has two layers, an inner, downy layer to help retain body warmth and an outer layer to keep out snow and rain. Wild Cats have outstanding vision. In bright conditions, such as in snow their pupils contract to a tiny vertical split. It is impossible to distinguish between tracks in the snow made by Wild Cats and those made by house cats, both have a rounded paw print consisting of a ball and four digits. Up to 90% of the predator's food is made up of different types of mice and voles. They live in wild range of habitats, these include deciduous, coniferous and mixed woodland as well as moorland and the lower more vegetated slopes of mountains. They rarely venture onto the high top. If there is snow on the ground for long periods they will move to lower altitudes where it is easier to hunt. The predominantly nocturnal animals are also active at dawn and dusk. Solitary hunters, they are pure carnivores, eating only meat, which they make short work of with their sharp teeth.

Continued

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The majority of their prey consists of rabbits, hares and small rodents such as rats, mice and voles, catching enough food to survive. They usually hunt on the ground carefully stalking their unsuspecting prey under cover of darkness before pouncing. Their night vision is excellent, aided by forward facing eyes that provide binocular vision. The Eyes have a special layer behind the retina that reflects light back so they can see the same level of detail as humans with 1/6 the amount of light. This enables the Cat to hunt in the lower illumination of dawn, dusk and night. Their hearing is extremely sensitive enabling them to detect the lightest sounds, including high pitch squeaks. Each ear can rotate 180% giving the Wild Cat hearing all around it. This makes them capable of working out the position of sound. Help finding prey also comes from their sensitive whiskers which detect changes in air movement. Wild Cats have powerful thighs and can reach speeds up to 30mph (50 kph). Prey is brought down with their sharp claws and then killed with a rapid bite to the neck, the whole animal including fur, skin, bones and feathers is eaten. Giving birth - female Scottish Wild Cats coming to oestrus making them receptive to mating once a year. During this fertile period they will leave their home range in search of a male in order to breed. They use scent markings, leaving faeces and urine in strategic places in order to attract the males attention. After mating the female will seek out a safe area where she can make her den, amongst rocks or an old fox den or badger set. The pregnancy lasts for between 9 and 10 weeks. They give birth to a single litter of between 3 and 7 kittens, this is usually in the Spring, but can be at any time from late Winter to late Summer. The offspring are born completely blind, and unable to see until their eyes open after 10-13 days. The eyes are blue until the kitten is 7 weeks old then start to turn yellow. The kittens remain in the safety of their den for several weeks. During this time the mother feeds them on her milk, and later brings them food, such as small mammals. The litter are able to walk at 2 to 3 weeks old. Soon afterwards they start to play with their siblings, their play is part of their learning process, teaching them the skills they need to stalk and hunt. Adult Wild Cats are generally silent but the kittens have a range of meows and trills, especially when playing. At 2 to 3 months old, they begin to accompany their mother when she goes out hunting. At 5 to 6 months they start to establish their independence with their own home territory. Before they reach 1 year old they are sexually mature and fully adult. They can live up to 12 years in the wild. Myths and legends - Its isolation and elusive nature has meant the Scottish Wild Cat is subject of legend. There are tales of giant Wild Cats able to kill humans. They are reputed to have attacked some of Scotland's earliest inhabitants, the Picts when they landed, the Picts developed a great respect for the Cats and many groups adopted it as their tribal symbol. Caithness and Sutherland formed a Pictish province, Cataibh meaning the land of the Cat tribe. Caithness remains an echo of that name.

The Duke of Sutherlands Gaelic title is Morair Chat, meaning the great man of the Cats. Glen MacPherson, Clan Macbean, Clan Mackintosh all featured the Wild Cat on their crest. Incidentally and what a coincidence Mackintosh was the name over the door of our log cabin, thus connecting Penny and myself and indeed Tostock with the myths of the Wild Cat.





its chest, The Cat Sith holds the ability to bless or curse those who cross its path. The legends surrounding this creature are thought to have been inspired by the Kellas Cat. This is a large black cat that is reputed to be a distinctive cross between a Wild Cat and Domestic Cat. The real untamed Cat requires no legends to embellish its importance as Britain's only true Wild Cat. This intelligent and resourceful predator is a character creature of grace and beauty that encapsulates the spirit of a wilder time. so what is in store for the future of these most remarkable animals. Until they received legal protection 1988 Wild Cats were persecuted by farmers, gamekeepers and landowners intent on protecting their domestic animals or game. It does have other enemies including Golden Eagles. Kittens are sometimes caught and killed by Foxes, Pine martens and Stoats but the main threat comes from its domesticated and feral cousins. They readily breed with both, resulting in the delusion of the gene pool. The Wild Cat is also at risk of catching diseases such as feline Leukaemia virus and feline calcivirus from domestic and feral cats. With no natural immunity these diseases can be fatal. Over a 5 year period the Scottish Wild Cat Association with the support of captive breeders such as the Aigas Centre, leading scientist and cat welfare charities aim to establish a vast Wild Cat haven, a main land island, the Ardnamurchan Peninsula in the Scottish Highlands where the species can be protected for ever. If enough pure bred Wild Cats have survived to make a breeding population viable (buffer zone) of live traps would be set up at the mouth of the Peninsula to stop other cats coming in. It would remove the risk of interbreeding with either feral or hybrid cats and hopefully numbers would rise. Trapped feral cats would be neutered and programmes set up in towns raising the awareness of the importance of neutering, making more facilities available and more affordable. They would seek to raise awareness of Wild Cats and their needs through publicity and road signage to reduce road kills. Low impact Wildlife Tourism such as wild life hides and guided tours would be encouraged to bring income into the community and a full educational programme would be delivered to local schools as well as offering opportunities for research projects. In the long term they would hope to release captive bred Wild Cats to boost and strengthen the population. May the Highland Tiger long live free from extinction

In Scottish Mythology, the Cat Sith is a ghostly creature that haunts the Highlands. Resembling a large Black Cat with a white spot on

'It's okay, my dog is friendly...'

No it's NOT okay! Just because your dog is friendly doesn't mean all dogs are - please remember:

Never let your dog run up to a dog on leash- they could be scared or become reactive.

Try to respect other owners and their need for space.

Not all dogs want the added attention or intrusion.



www.mightydoggraphics.com(c)2016



Tostock Past and Present Society

Since our last meeting in June we have had two excellent outings. The first was a walk around the Black Bourn Valley Nature Reserve and was led by Will Cranston of the Suffolk Wild Life Trust.

Will was very informative about the rewilding taking place, and the processes and different stages various parts of the reserve had reached. We all appreciated how lucky we are to have this facility next door to Tostock.

Our second outing was a visit to Gestingthorpe Roman Villa. Many of us went to the Pheasant for lunch and we were then welcomed to the Villa by Ashley Cooper. The weather was not perfect and so we only had a quick visit to the actual site, which is all covered over for preservation reasons. Back in the Museum we saw how the Villa was next door to an old Roman Road, making it very accessible, which eventually led in a straight line to Ixworth and beyond. Ashley in his lively style took us through all the exhibits which have been excavated since 1945. These explanations gave us a much better understanding of their purpose.

Finally we saw a wonderful tithe barn with historical farm machinery, and an old Guild Hall which had been dismantled elsewhere and reassembled sometime after 1548. The afternoon finished with tea and biscuits.

Our programme for the remainder of the year is as follows;

Tues Oct 1st at - Stuart Bowell - The History of Advertising: From early times to the Present Day.

Tues Nov 5th - Jason Salisbury - Whitegate Farm, Home of Suffolk Farmhouse Cheeses. Our journey.

Tues Dec 3rd 7pm for 7.30pm - Members evening - Please bring one or more interesting items (Past or Present) to display, and a plate of food to share. The evening will be informal with an opportunity to discuss the items on show.

All our regular meetings are in Tostock Village Hall and commence at 7.30pm on the first Tuesday of each month. Non-members are always welcome. (£3)

For further information contact Anthony Scully 01359 270482 email a.rod.scully@gmail.com

Tostock Bookgroup



The last two meetings of the year will be on October 23rd and on November 27th. Rosemary Lister has offered to host the November meeting, but we do not have a host for October yet. We hope to discuss "A Man Called Ove" by Fredrik Backman in October, with "Snap" by Belinda Bauer to round off the year.

Around this time of year we ask members to suggest titles for the next year's programme. Get in touch with Kath Lord, Janet Perks or myself with suggestions, and also if you want to be part of the "sub-committee" who organise the vote.

Julie Harrison

Tel 270247, email:- harrisoj69@hotmail.com





TOSTOCK CARPET BOWLS CLUB

First of all I would like on behalf of the Carpet Bowls Club to say thank you to the Parish Council for their donation to enable the Bowls Club to purchase new polo shirts.

It is several years since we have had new shirts and having some new players it will be nice to see everyone playing in the same colour which will go well with the blue zip-up tops.

Out first games in the Bury Premier League begin in October but we start with the Joe Rice Cup in the Suffolk League.

October

Tuesday 8 - Bildeston - away Joe Rice Cup

Tuesday 15 - Hargrave - away

Tuesday 22 - Barrow - home

Tuesday 29 - Woolpit - away Bury League Knock-out

November

Wednesday 6 - Barrow - away Monday 25 - Bildeston - home Joe Rice Cup

> Doreen Buckle Secretary



Notes from the Tostock Parish Council Meeting on on Wednesday 14th August 2019

<u>Present:</u> Cllrs J Debenham (Chair), J Kearsley (Vice-Chair), D Blundell, O Boland, P Fletcher,

N Cytacki,, G Macdowall and M Johansson District Councillor Harry Richarson

Mrs S Burman (Clerk) Seven Members of the Public

APOLOGIES: Apologies received and accepted from Cllrs: P Boland and District Councillor Wendy Turner.

REPORTS:

a). County Councillor Cllr J Storey: No report received.

b). District Councillors:

Cllr Wendy Turner sent a report which included: Warnings regarding council tax scams, draft joint local plan,

5 year land supply, £3.1m loss by CIFCO and zero waste week Sept 2-6th

Cllr Harry Richardson attended and gave a report which included: Suffolk's plan to become the greenest county, wildlife corridors and the intention to be carbon neutral by 2030. The chair asked if we would receive more information on wildlife corridors and Cllr Boland asked for more clarity on the carbon neutral statement.

- c). Village Hall: None received.
- d). Chairman: The Chairman had undertaken a review of benches in the village along with the Chairman of the village hall committee and Evan Markell local carpenter. The outcome from this is that 3 new benches are required, 2 are to be rubbed down and treated, 3 are perfect and 1 may need to be replaced but a repair will be attempted first. Repairs to commence immediately £200 Proposed by Cllr Kearsley and seconded by Cllr Cytacki. Replacements to be researched and return to agenda.

Public Forum: One villager enquired when the Tostock Place application was to be discussed and was advised it would be the subject of another meeting – the date to be set at the end of this one. One villager enquired whether it would be possible to hold a garage/sale trail and were advised the Parish Council would have no objection as on private driveways etc.

UPDATES:

- i. HGV's through the Village: Cllr Fletcher advised Tostock had plenty of HGV signage. Highways have advised that there is in fact NO weight limit on the Norton Road bridge according to their records. 30mph signage was discussed and regarded as worth pursuing. The chairman suggested a working group for this to be taken forward and to investigate the possibility of extending the 30 mph limits to where houses begin on approaches to the village, for instance Tostock Old Hall to the single pass bridge towards the A1088. To place on next agenda.
- ii. SID Speed Indicator Displays: The chairman had reviewed the information gathered by previous Parish Councillors and updated the costing. Each portable SID is £2625 plus VAT (£2900 with smiley/cross face) and the data collection unit at £250 plus VAT. Software is extra. More time is needed to put together a plan to present. It was thought that 4 volunteers had made themselves known to help run this system.
- iii. General Power of Competence: The clerk confirmed that once a resolution has been passed, a parish council remains eligible up until its next relevant annual meeting, whether or not the conditions relating to electoral mandate and qualified clerk continue to be met, compliance with these conditions is judged at the time a resolution is passed. Remove from agenda.
- iv. SALC Training: (Suffolk Association of Local Councils.) The clerk confirmed that she and Cllr Fletcher were booked to attend a planning course and the clerk is also booked on the budgeting course. This required budgeting for. Cllr Kearsley proposed that the sum required for training be approved for transfer from the reserve account this was seconded by Cllr Debenham. The new councillors were advised to go onto SALC website and arrange booking with the Clerk. Cllr Olivia Boland asked if training was compulsory. Cllr Kearsley advised that the funding was there the clerk to find out whether compulsory. New councillors were advised to read their new councillors packs, the policies and information on the parish council website and attend the short training course offered.

TO CONSIDER CHRISTMAS TREE FOR THE VILLAGE GREEN

Council discussed and Cllr Debenham proposed making £120 available now so that a more appropriately sized tree could be ordered earlier this year. Cllr Blundell seconded this. More lights were mentioned – it was agreed no more lights needed – merely a smaller tree!. The Red Oak on the green was mentioned as an alternative. Cllr Fletcher advised that this was researched last year and a cherry picker would be needed to put up and take down lights so a lower more traditional approach is preferred and is cheaper.

FACEBOOK AS A MEANS OF PARISH COUNCIL COMMUNICATION:

Cllr Boland put forward the case for using Facebook for communication of Parish Council business. The advantage of this is that it is instant and young people would find it easier to follow the Parish Council's business. The chairman expressed some concerns about who would maintain the Facebook pages. Cllr Cytacki voiced reservations regarding Facebook being an opinion based forum and not as factual as present communication methods which are the noticeboard, the website and the Chronicle. Cllr Cytacki also mentioned that social platforms work through a data exchange method. The Chairman suggested that as the website contains all the information already, maybe the village should be reminded via the Chronicle that this is the place to go for information. The clerk advised that the Proper Officer (The Clerk) would be responsible for the Facebook account and monitoring it which would take some time as social media would require frequent checking for content and or comments made. The clerk advised that the council would need to debate how many hours they were willing to fund the Clerk to carry out the extra work. The council took a vote on printing a notice in the Chronicle directing villagers to the website. 6 councillors were for this proposal.

PLANNING:

Appeal Decision: APP/W3520/W/19/3225661 Land Adjacent to Foresters, New Road, Tostock. IP30 9PJ APPEAL DISMISSED

COUNCILLORS REPORTS & ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA:

Cllr Fletcher asked for Terms of Reference for Footpath and Tree Officers to be placed on the next agenda.

The meeting closed at 9.20 p.m.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

a planning meeting, as Wednesday, 28th August 2019 at 7.30pm in the village hall.

*Notes from the Tostock Parish Council PLANNING Meeting on Wednesday 28thAugust 2019at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs J Debenham (Chair), J Kearsley (Vice-Chair), D Blundell, O Boland, P Fletcher,

N Cytacki and M Johansson, Mrs S Burman (Clerk)

Members of the Public: The applicant and the applicant's development consultant.

APOLOGIES

Apologies received and approved from Cllr MacDowall

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING Wednesday 14th August, 2019:

Cllr Cytacki proposed and seconded by Cllr Kearsley, all in agreement that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 14th August 2019, were approved as a true and accurate record and signed by the chair accordingly.

PUBLIC FORUM REGARDING PLANNING APPLICATION DC/19/03789

A villager spoke knowledgably of Tostock Place's historical significance and expressed concern for the potential harm that could occur to it's existing character, the landscape, the parkland and significant heritage assets.

The applicant replied that villagers would not see the development – hedges would be planted.

A villager enquired about the size of the houses.

The applicant stated they would be mainly 3 bedroom houses and he would insist that whoever developed the site must include a pair of semi-detached cottages which would be more affordable than the houses.

A villager spoke about the site being outside the planning envelope and was concerned about setting a precedent. She stated that Tostock had no schools, shop, doctors etc and there was currently no need for another 9 houses. She expressed concerns for traffic through the village.

Cllr Olivia Boland asked the applicant how the planning application reflected local needs.

The development consultant replied that the local plan showed a shortfall in housing land and the size of the site meant it did not have to meet affordable housing needs.

*Full report is available to view on our village website

continued

Cllr Blundell asked the applicant what motivated him to build. The applicant stated that he builds for profit – and that he runs a property development business in London.

Cllr Kearsley queried the site being 0.5 hectare and this should bring it into the bracket for an affordable housing allocation as the rules were 0.5 and above – not over 0.5

The development consultant stated that the site was actually 0.49 hectare therefore not liable to provide any affordable housing. This has been confirmed by the planning officer.

Cllr Cytacki suggested the minimum number of cars for 9 houses would be 18. He queried the Traffic/Transport statement submitted to the planning department as part of the application as new houses had been passed in New Road since this was carried out. It is dated 2nd November 2017 (and therefore nearly 2 years old)

The applicant stated that he hoped to include a footpath at no cost to the village and that 50 % of the traffic would be going in the opposite direction to the village centre.

Cllr Olivia Boland queried whether outline planning is different to detailed regarding affordable housing.

It was explained to her by fellow councillors that this would make no difference as the site at 0.49 hectares is not obliged to provide any.

The development consultant said that houses must be built somewhere in Suffolk – he felt that it was illogical for Tostock to be classed as a hinterland village being in such close proximity to Woolpit, Elmswell and Thurston etc.

Cllr Debenham asked directly whether the traffic report had taken account of the cumulative effect of the extra houses in the village as is required and also what date had the reports been updated?

The applicant did not know.

Cllr Debenham stated to all that Tostock being classed as a hinterland village was not illogical. It is awarded its status on a points system by Mid Suffolk and Babergh Council.

Cllr Debenham felt that the application to MSDC/Babergh should not have included the wording 'points sought by community' as it was misleading and referred to a meeting held in November 2018 relating to a previous planning application scheme by the applicant.

Cllr Debenham stated that district councillors have reported that Suffolk is hoping to be carbon neutral in the next few years. He asked how the proposed application conforms to that plan.

The applicant answered that in his experience as a developer, carbon neutral is not sustainable. There will be a large carbon footprint initially as the bricks will come from Nottingham, but in his opinion this is offset by the longevity of traditional construction which lasts for hundreds of years.

A villager asked the applicant whether he could guarantee a covenant that would prevent further development if the site was sold on and whether he was going to develop the site himself or move on.

The applicant stated that he had not engaged solicitors to look into any covenants as they are costly and although he could insist on a covenant there are no guarantees. Much would depend on the developer who purchases the site.

Cllr Kearsley stated that the new draft plan now in consultation for Suffolk states that building land is sufficient and development should be restricted to infill only – only in exceptional circumstances would any new area outside the development/settlement boundary be considered.

The developer stated that houses are still needed and Tostock is a hinterland village. Appeals do go through.

Cllr Fletcher stated that the Local Plan 2020 under development contains proposals to bring affordable housing rules to smaller sites and to applications for 9 and UNDER dwellings. She felt this applications timing before 2020 was for convenience/gain.

TO CONSIDER THE PARISH COUNCIL'S RESPONSE TO THE PLANNING APPLICATION

Cllr Fletcher proposed those in favour of the Parish Council objecting to application DC/19/03789 and 4 councillors voted in favour of objecting. 3 councillors abstained.

The following reasons were agreed to be notified to the planning department.

The site is outside the settlement boundary – the new plan states land supply is sufficient and development should be restricted to infill only.

Any development outside the settlement boundary would set a precedent in the village.

The proposed development is within historic parkland and would be harmful to significant heritage assets of Tostock

Tostock has limited amenities and the infrastructure to cope with this development.

Tostock already has another development of 9 dwellings having been granted planning permission in Perkins Way.

Further dwellings of this nature are not currently required in Tostock – this proposal would not meet local needs.

The chairman thanked the applicant and his development consultant for attending and for taking the time to answer queries.

The meeting closed at 8.35 p.m.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, 9th October 2019 at 7.30pm in the village hall.





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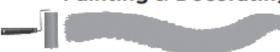




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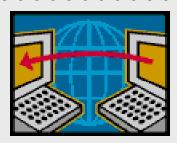
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Chair: Jim Debenham	jimdebenham@live.co.uk		
ViceChair: Julian Kearsley	juliankearsley@btinternet.com		
David Blundell	Tostock.design@btinternet.com		
Graham MacDowall	crispincottage@hotmail.com		
Pip Fletcher	pipfletcher@btinternet.com		
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Friends/Warden: Jeanne O'Reilly			01359 270337
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<u>Pub</u>			
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<u>Clubs</u>			
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Susie Walton	fswalton@icloud.com		01359 271976
Book Club: Julie Harrison			01359 270247
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DATES TO REMEMBER

OCTOBER 2019

Thursday 3rd



Village Hall meeting from **8pm** Village Hall

Wednesday 9th



Parish Council Meeting from **7.30pm** Village Hall

Saturday 26th



Village Tidy Day from **10am** Village Hall

ALL WELCOME

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NOVEMBER 2019

Saturday 2nd



Fireworks From 6pm **The Leys**

Wednesday 13th



Parish Council Meeting from **7.30pm** Village Hall

Friday 15th



Tostock Quiz
7pm
Village Hall

Saturday 23rd



<u>Christmas Fayre</u>

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NEXT EDITION: Is for

December 2019/January 2019
Please may I have your contributions
on or BEFORE 19thNovember

preferably in word or much appreciated.

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2019 Tostock Flower & Vegetable Show

After a very difficult growing year, entries to the show were down, but in spite of this the village still put on a good show.... with a happy atmosphere at this community event!

The results were:-

The Doug Copeland Photo Frame was won by Jim Langlois.

The Tostock Trowel went to Jacqueline Neal.

The George Taylor Plate.... most promising young gardener.....Faramir Newport.

Floral Art.....Sarah Reader.

Simon Reynolds Tray.....Derrick Poole.

Cowdell Cup for Homecraft...... Jane Putt.

Pineacre Runner-Up Cup......Derrick Poole.

Parish Council Challenge Bowl.....Jane Putt.

All participants should have received some bulbs to plant.....either dwarf narcissi or dwarf tulips, and we hope to have a spring meeting in 2020 to show the resulting blooms. Watch out for the date!

Many thanks to all our helpers, and to everyone who joined in the fun. Let's do it again next year!

Barney Harrison & Sharon Markell













2020 Flower and Vegetable Show

As Barney & Julie may not be around next September, we are looking for people to help plan & run the show in 2020.

If you feel you could help in any way, please contact Barney (270247) or Sharon (271190). We hope to have a meeting in October to review this year's show & discuss next year's event.

Barney Harrison