

# the norton messenger

August 2025



## EDITORIAL

Results of the neighborhood plan are in this months edition, as well as an exciting opportunity to visit our resident beavers at Little Haugh Hall.

If you have anything you would like to see published send it to the address below by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the previous month. Including any new article ideas you have.

Best wishes, Diana



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# NORTON VILLAGE HALL CLASSES

IP31 3LE



<b>MONDAY</b>	6.00pm - 6.45pm 7.00pm - 7.45pm	Paracise Jo's Fit4All
<b>TUESDAY</b>	9.30am - 10.30am	Serenity Yoga
	10.45am - 11.45am	Silver Swans Over-55s Ballet Class
	7.15pm - 9.15pm	Song Circle Ladies' Choir
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	6.30pm - 7.30pm	Zumba
<b>THURSDAY</b>	7.00pm - 8.00pm	Rockfit with Bliss
<b>FRIDAY</b>	9.15am - 10.15am	Zumba
	10.45am - 11.45 am	Fitness with Yvonne



For further details please contact: nortonvhbookings@gmail.com

## VILLAGE SOCIETIES – NORTON WI

Following an earlier article in the Messenger back in June, several people have contacted me about the possibility of starting up a new branch of the W.I. here in Norton. As we are now into holiday season it seems sensible to meet early in September to see how to go forward. Anyone who hasn't yet contacted me can still do so on 01359 230601, the more the merrier.

Helen Taylor.

theWI  
INSPIRING WOMEN

**St Andrew's Church**  
**Norton IP31 3LE**

Plants

DOG SHOW



ola

Tea

Cakes

**Sunday 2nd June**

4 pm

**POSTPONED UNTIL 20th SEPTEMBER**  
Due to the hot weather

**Dog Classes and Prizes**  
**Class Registration 2pm**  
**Classes beginning 2.30pm**  
**Fun for all the Family**

## NORTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN RESULTS

Thank you to all those who completed the Norton Neighbourhood Plan survey. We had 94 responses in total.

The 'word cloud' below represents the responses to words in the boxes to describe our village.



Below are some of the easy to show preliminary results; the committee will analyse all of the results from the survey in order to help write the Neighbourhood Plan.






**3. Do you think Norton needs more housing? Please tick only one option:**

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes	<div><div></div></div>	40.00%	36
2	No	<div><div></div></div>	46.67%	42
3	Unsure	<div><div></div></div>	13.33%	12



**4. If you answered YES to question 3, how many new houses do you think Norton needs in the next 20 years? Please tick only one option:**

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	1-20	<div><div></div></div>	18.92%	7
2	21-40	<div><div></div></div>	35.14%	13
3	41-60	<div><div></div></div>	27.03%	10
4	Over 60	<div><div></div></div>	18.92%	7
			answered	37
			skipped	57





**6. What scale would you prefer any future development to take? Please note: Developers have to provide affordable housing for all developments of 10 or more dwellings. Please tick any that apply:**

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Single buildings		61.63%	53
2	Several small developments of up to 5 dwellings		54.65%	47
3	Several medium developments of 6 – 10 dwellings		24.42%	21
4	1 or 2 larger developments of 11 – 50 dwellings		10.47%	9
5	One large development of 50+ homes		2.33%	2
			answered	86
			skipped	8



**10. Are there any sites you think should be protected from development?**

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		85.19%	69
2	No		14.81%	12
			answered	81
			skipped	13



**15. How often do you use public transport in Norton? Please tick only one option:**

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Often		2.27%	2
2	Sometimes		12.50%	11
3	Rarely		15.91%	14
4	Never		69.32%	61
			answered	88
			skipped	6






**19. Are you satisfied that you have sufficient access to the surrounding countryside? Please tick only one option:**

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		86.67%	78
2	No		13.33%	12
			answered	90
			skipped	4





**24. Do you travel from Norton for training, education, voluntary work, work or to run a business? Please tick only one option:**

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		54.44%	49
2	No		45.56%	41
			answered	90
			skipped	4



**25. If you answered YES to question 24, how do you normally travel? Tick all that apply:**

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Car		96.77%	60
2	Walk		6.45%	4
3	Train		9.68%	6
4	Bicycle		4.84%	3
5	Public bus		3.23%	2
6	School bus		0.00%	0
			answered	62
			skipped	32

### 30. How many years have your family lived in Norton? Please tick one box:

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	0-5 years		27.06%	23
2	6-10 years		15.29%	13
3	11-15 years		11.76%	10
4	over 15 years		45.88%	39
			answered	85
			skipped	9

### 33. Do you or anyone in your household intend to move from Norton in the next 5 years? Please tick only one option:

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		23.53%	20
2	No		76.47%	65
			answered	85
			skipped	9

Anyone in the village is welcome to join the volunteers on the committee to analyse the results and write the Neighbourhood Plan. If you want to get involved, please email [nortonnp25@gmail.com](mailto:nortonnp25@gmail.com). Committee members are listed below:

Paul Elliott  
Matthew Harris  
Robert Lenko  
Jill Rowland  
Derek Wilding  
Neil Winstanley  
Deb Williams  
Phil Williams





I can't believe I'm writing this article with just one week to go before we break for summer. This half-term has not disappointed—it's been incredibly busy, but full of fun and learning!

**Star Class (EYFS)** went on their very first school trip to Bradfield Woods as part of their topic *Living and Growing*. The children became minibeast detectives, using their senses to explore the natural world around them. They had a fantastic time.

**Galaxy Class (Year 1)** enjoyed a fabulous day at the seaside. They spent time on the beach identifying both human and physical coastal features, as well as walking along the promenade and visiting Martello Park.

**Planet Class (Year 2)** thoroughly enjoyed their topic on Australia, especially learning about the weather and native animals. As part of their Science work, they also visited Holywells Park. The day included invertebrate hunting and classification—children found spiders, ants, beetles, and even a toad! They also took part in a sensory walk and identified various trees and flowers.

**Comet Class (Year 3)** have been learning about biomes, with a particular focus on ocean environments. They explored the world's oceans, mapped their locations in relation to the continents, and discussed both their importance and the environmental issues they face.

**Rocket Class (Year 4)** visited the Guru Nanak Gurdwara in Ipswich as part of their RE topic on Sikhism. They learned about the features of a Gurdwara, the principles initiated Sikhs follow, and the rules all visitors must observe. The children were incredibly attentive and respectful throughout the visit. Another highlight for Year 4 was returning home with silver medals after competing in a Multiskills Festival with other local primary schools.

**Meteor Class (Year 5)** have had an action-packed few weeks. They performed at a music festival at The Apex, participated in Bikeability, and have begun thinking about the leadership roles they hope to take on in Year 6. On Friday 13 June, the whole school took part in our Sponsored Fun Hike—a fantastic morning filled with fun, smiles, singing, and lots of walking! Both children and staff showed great enthusiasm and resilience throughout. To reward their efforts, the children were welcomed back with celebratory ice lollies—a much-appreciated treat on a hot day. So far, we've raised nearly £4,325, which will be shared between Cancer Research UK, Blood Cancer UK, and a seated bench area in memory of Evie Carey.

Sports Day, held on Friday 20 June, was another brilliant occasion. The weather was perfect, and the children enjoyed a variety of sporting activities, including the traditional running races. They encouraged and cheered each other on throughout the day. Afterwards, families joined the children for a picnic on the school field, making for a lovely community event.

Our Key Stage 2 performance, *It's the End of the World*, was a huge success. The children sang with great enthusiasm, and Year 6 made a perfect cast. The production, written by Mr Mabbitt, featured cleverly adapted lyrics to well-known rock anthems to suit the storyline.

And so, we say goodbye to our Year 6 pupils. They've been a wonderful cohort who have worked extremely hard, as reflected in their recent SATs results. They leave Norton with strong foundations, and we wish them every success as they move on to secondary school.

Have a wonderful summer!

Mrs Sparkes





# Norton Salvation Army

## What's on at the Army in August?

Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Breakfast Church	10.45am
	(Enjoy coffee/tea/pastries in a relaxed Worship setting)	
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Morning Worship	11.00am
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Evening Praise	6.00pm
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Morning Worship	11.00am
Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup>	Morning Worship	11.00am
<hr/>		
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Friends Cafe	2.00pm – 4.00pm
	(We are a dementia friendly group offering time out to include carers)	
Thursday's	Cameo Lunches	11.45am – 1.30pm
	(3 Course Meal £6.00)	
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> /21 <sup>st</sup>	Choir Rehearsal	8.00pm – 9.00pm
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Band Rehearsal	8.00pm – 9.00pm

**Please feel free to come & join in with us at any time: You would be very welcome**

Our Clothes Bank situated in the car park is available to you for all your unwanted clothes & shoes.  
Available 24/7. Please help us to help others.

**If you would like to make contact with Norton Salvation Army please e-mail:**

**[Norton@salvationarmy.org.uk](mailto:Norton@salvationarmy.org.uk) OR [Peter.Newson@salvationarmy.org.uk](mailto:Peter.Newson@salvationarmy.org.uk)**

**We will be pleased to help you where possible with any questions/queries**

A Christian Church and Registered Charity No: 214779, and in Scotland SC09359

The Salvation Army Territorial Headquarters, 101, Newington Causeway, London, SE1 6BN

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## BEAVER TOURS AND VISIT TO THE WALLED GARDEN

We are offering Beaver Tours at Little Haugh Farm on the following Fridays in July and August:

18th July 15:00-16:00 beaver enclosure and 16:00-17:00 walled garden

25th July 17:00-18:00 walled garden and 18:00-19:00 beaver enclosure

8th Aug 15:00-16:00 beaver enclosure and 16:00-17:00 walled garden

15th Aug 17:00-18:00 walled garden and 18:00-19:00 beaver enclosure

The tour includes a walk of the beaver enclosure and a visit to the fully working Victorian walled garden where you will be able to purchase vegetable and fruit grown in the garden and at our orchards.

Tickets are £15 per adult and £5 per child.

To book in advance please contact

[info@littlehaughfarm.co.uk](mailto:info@littlehaughfarm.co.uk), or you can turn up and pay on the day.

You will need to bring wellies.



**ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH** (Part of the Benefice of Pakenham, Norton & Tostock, with Great Ashfield, Hunston & Stowlangtoft)

Rector: Revd Katherine Valentine Tel 01359 235095 Email: [kavalentine677@gmail.com](mailto:kavalentine677@gmail.com)

Website: [www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com) Benefice Church magazine [www.vcnews.org.uk](http://www.vcnews.org.uk)

**August 2025 Church Services**

**Open daily for visitors and private prayer. St Andrew's Norton services are highlighted below.**

3 <sup>rd</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity	<b>8am Holy Communion (BCP)</b> 10am Family@Church Holidays (This service will be outside, weather permitting)	<b>Norton</b> Pakenham
10 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity	9.30am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Morning Worship 11.00am Family Communion	Tostock Great Ashfield Pakenham
17 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity	9.30am Holy Communion (BCP) <b>9.30am Morning Worship</b> 11am Family Communion 6pm Evening prayer and praise	Pakenham <b>Norton</b> Great Ashfield Tostock
24 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity	9.30am TOAST 9.30am Holy Communion 11am Pet Service <b>11am Family Communion</b>	Great Ashfield Hunston Tostock <b>Norton</b>
31 <sup>st</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity	<b>10am Benefice Communion</b>	<b>Stowlangtoft</b>

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**ST ANDREW'S CHURCH LIGHTS**

The St Andrew's Church (Norton) floodlights for the last 2 weeks of August is sponsored by David and Thelma Howes the Church lights to remember Jeremy and celebrate family birthdays.

If you would like to see the church lit up please consider sponsoring the lights (£20 a week) or if you would like to celebrate an event or remember a loved one contact:

Philippa Wilding

email [pfwilding@btinternet.com](mailto:pfwilding@btinternet.com)

Telephone 07776443004



Our  
next  
event  
for all!



Norton & District Twinning Association

**BINGO!**

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

**18+** @ Norton Village Hall

Doors open 7pm, Eyes down 7.30pm

£10 each      CASH prizes      Extra games

Contact us for tickets  
Ticket price includes all Bingo games  
Limited refreshments available – please bring your own!

 nortontwinning@gmail.com       Norton and District Twinning Association

Dates for your diary:

- ❖ **13<sup>th</sup> September:** Bingo Night
- ❖ **8<sup>th</sup> October:** Annual General Meeting
- ❖ **15<sup>th</sup> November:** Cheese and Wine evening (members only)



nortontwinning@gmail.com



Norton and District Twinning Association

# PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025

**PRESENT in the Chair:** Mrs. S. Hill  
 Mr. B. Aket, Prof. K. Jaggard, Mr. R. Lenko Mr. G. Walton, Mrs. J. Rowland (Clerk)  
 LGA 1972 s12 para 40  
 1 member of the public

**APOLOGIES:** Mr. J Bolus, Mr. J. Morgan, Mr. N. Winstanley  
 The Council consented to accept the apology and reasons, which will be recorded in the attendance register.  
 District Councillor H. Richardson  
 County Councillor A. Mellen

1.	<b>The Chair welcomed all to the monthly meeting.</b>	
2.	Declarations of pecuniary and local non-pecuniary interests a) To receive declarations of pecuniary, local non-pecuniary interest(s) and personal interests in items on the agenda inc. gifts of hospitality exceeding £25- none b) To receive declarations of lobbying for planning matters - none c)To receive requests for dispensations - none	
3.	<b>PUBLIC FORUM</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members of the public—to receive questions and matters of concern from those in attendance - none</li> <li>Members of the public – to receive comments submitted via email</li> </ul> <p>Bus service – the service from Dan’s coaches is to be withdrawn for pick up at Norton. It may be due to lack of numbers, but there are conflicting reasons for the withdrawal. The Clerk will write to SCC and Dan’s coaches to ask why this is happening.</p> <p>Lorries – lorries are using the A1088 as a rat run while the A14 is closed at night. Trading Standards are responsible for misuse. Although there has been a speed camera and ANPR is not known who is following up this information. Councillor Mellen has been pressing for an answer but has yet to receive a definitive answer.</p> <p>Village Hall entrance – Request received to improve the egress of the car park due to the poor state of the mirror and overgrown hedge. Mr. Walton will contact the developer to replace the mirror as agreed and Prof. Jaggard agreed to cut back the hedge. If unsuccessful the Council agreed to replace the mirror.</p>	Clerk           Clerk           Mr. Walton Prof Jaggard
4.	<b>REPORTS FOR INFORMATION</b> Report from County Councillor Andy Mellen - noted Report from District Councillors Harry Richardson – noted Mr. Lenko informed of a dog show at the Church on 22 <sup>nd</sup> June, at which Cllr Richardson is assisting.	
5.	<b>MINUTES</b>	
	5.1 To <b>RESOLVE</b> the minutes of the AGM and Council meeting held on 12 <sup>th</sup> May <b>2025</b> are a true and correct record. Prof Jaggard proposed, Mr. Aket seconded	
6.	<b>COOPTION</b> – Mr. Millen expressed his willingness to stand. Councillors present agreed to coopt Mr. Millen, and the Chair welcomed him to the Council.	
7.	<b>MATTERS ARISING</b> from Meeting held on 12 <sup>th</sup> May 2025	
	7.1 Bus stop at crossroads. The bus stop and timetable are in a poor state. It was questioned who is responsible for the timetable notice. There is money available for bus stop improvements. Cllr Mellen had mentioned about having the bus stop area properly designated and hatched.	
	7.2 Vehicles -The vehicle parking at the top of The Street is an obstruction. Mr. Millen stated he had spoken to the owner who lives along Ixworth Road, explaining it was an obstruction. Mr. Walton will let the Clerk know who owns the vehicles so a letter can be sent. The Clerk will inform the Police of the obstruction. A lorry is also parked in the village hall car park all day. The Clerk will write when informed where the owner lives. It was suggested that parking in the Ixworth Road layby could be an option.	Clerk
	7.3 UKPN – To receive update. The Clerk stated she had requested an invoice from FIT and been informed that the request would be considered by the Planning and Policy Committee at their meeting at the end of June beginning of July before an invoice can be issued. The Clerk was asked to ensure this matter is on the FIT agenda.	Clerk 11

	7.4 Street lighting. Part Night Lighting Scheme has optimum down times between 11.30pm until 5.30am, but times can be selected by the Council. Each unit can be controlled independently (requiring Tele Cell installation) and the modern LED lanterns can also be dimmed. When updating old lights to LED lanterns a tele cell is included, but to have tele cells on old lanterns will incur a cost. The Council need to decide whether to upgrade lights with tele cells, leave lights on as currently, or designate areas to upgrade and switch off during specific night hours. The Clerk will outline areas, which lights could be upgraded with tele cell, or already LED and just require tele cells.	Clerk Agenda
	7.5 Antisocial behaviour/ engaging with young people. It was suggested the Neighbourhood Plan could be used to gauge young people's views but this had been rejected by the consultant who stated, in his experience, there would be a nil return. Mr. Aket felt it was important to try and engage young people, but felt his suggestions last meeting had been rejected. Mr. Millen stated he has taken responsibility for local areas for the British Legion and hoped to get youngsters involved with poppy appeal or regional events.	
	7.6 Invitation: SCC Briefing on Local Government Reorganisation 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2025. Mrs. Hill, Prof. Jaggard agreed to attend for which the Clerk had obtained tickets. Mr. Walton stated he may be able to attend so the Clerk will obtain a further ticket.	
8.	<b>PLANNING</b>	
	<b>8.1 APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION - DC/25/02166</b> Hill House, Ixworth Road, Norton. Erection of a side Extension (following demolition of existing conservatory). <b>The Council supported approval.</b>	
	<b>8.2 APPLICATION FOR CONSENT TO CARRY OUT WORKS TO TREE(S) PROTECTED BY A TREE PRESERVATION ORDER - DC/25/02380</b> Sandalwood, Heath Road, Norton. Application for Works to Trees Subject to Tree Preservation Order WS333/T5- Fell 1No Robina (T1). <b>The Council approved this work with the proviso that the Tree Officer at Mid Suffolk is in agreement and there is a condition to replant 2 suitable sized trees as part of the TPO conditions.</b>	
	<b>8.3 APPLICATION FOR CONSENT TO CARRY OUT WORKS TO TREE(S) PROTECTED BY A TREE PRESERVATION ORDER - DC/25/02328</b> Sandalwood, Heath Road, Norton. Notification of Works subject to Tree Preservation Order WS333/T5 – Robinia Remove all deadwood from the trees canopy as well as branches in decline back to live tissue. Once deadwood has been removed and declining branches removed, reduce side lateral branches to suitable replacement growth to maintain overall shape of the tree by up to 2m. <b>WITHDRAWN.</b>	
	<b>8.4 LISTED BUILDING CONSULTATION NOTIFICATION</b> Works to windows in listed buildings from Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils (LLBCO) consultation until 11 July 2025. The Council had no comment to make.	
9.	<b>FINANCIAL MATTERS</b>	
	9.1 To approve the accounts awaiting payment: Clerk's salary £624.00 LGA1972 s112 Street Cleaner £72.90 LGA1972 s112 Messenger, £363.00 LGA1972 s112 Clarke & Simpsons, Charity Report, £600.00 Charities Act 2011 ss298-303 LGA 1972 s139(1)  SALC, training, £43.20 LGA1972 s112 SARS £400 - chq no 522594 LGA 1972 s137 R. Lenko, Glue for trampoline repair £23.67 - chq no 522595 Public Health Act 1875 s164 HMRC £228.45 - chq no 522596 LGA1972 s112	
	9.2 To consider Slab base to Evie's bench. Mr. Walton agreed that over time the base would wear away. Mr. Lenko agreed to obtain a quote for slabbing the base to protect ground wear.	Mr. Lenko
	9.3 To receive R&P and reconciliation. The Clerk forwarded R&Ps for Lloyds and Santander accounts. Council <b>APPROVED</b> all.	
10	<b>DEVOLUTION</b> – no update.	
11	<b>SPEEDWATCH</b>	
	11.1 Update on Speedwatch. ANPR data received and passed to Mr. Moland.	
	11.2 Strategy to combat speeding. Request has been submitted to Highways for provision of a pole for the additional SID on the A1088. Locality Funding has been promised from Councillor Richardson and Councillor Bradbury.	

12	<b>VILLAGE HALL</b>	
	12.1 To receive update on hall and Management Committee. The hall is well used, and the coffee shop should open shortly. An advert has gone out for Committee members.	
13	<b>PLAY AREAS</b>	
	13.1 Play area adjacent to Village Hall – More bark is required under the swings. Mr. Lenko will get this organized. The zip wire will require tightening at some point.	Mr. Lenko
	13.2 Play area in Prospect Road – repair carried out to trampoline surround.	
14.	<b>NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN</b>	
	14.1 Review of working party meeting and update on survey. The survey has been delivered with the Messenger. The Survey is one per household not individuals	
15	<b>CORRESPONDENCE</b>	
	15.1 NSIP and large-scale energy developments update 2 May 2025 - noted	
	15.2 Suffolkonboard bus timetable updates - noted	
	15.3 Bus Stop Improvements and Passenger Group meeting - noted	
	15.4 Proposed Revised Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedules – Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils – six-week consultation 28th May to 9th July 2025 – noted.	
	15.5 Consultation on Babergh and Mid Suffolk Statement of Licensing Policy 30/5/25-11/07/25 - noted	
	15.6 Sizewell C - May Project Update - noted	
	15.7 Mr. Aket commented on nominations for Community Heroes and proposed that the Clerk is nominated.	
16	<b>Questions and Comments from Members and suggestions for next meeting - none</b>	
17	To confirm <b>date of next meeting: 7<sup>th</sup> July 2025</b>	
18	There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.35.	

## LOCAL BUSINESS ADVERTS

### Yoga at Norton Primary School

Tuesday's, 7 - 8:30pm

£8 per class

For all abilities

For more information:

T: 07932 792955

E: yogawithstuart@gmail.com

Member of the Yoga Alliance Professionals



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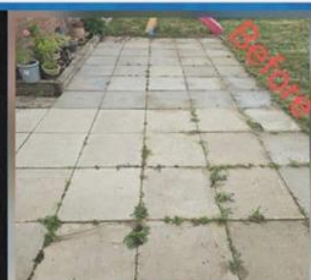
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...then come to our fun & friendly classes

**Norton Village Hall on Mondays**

**Paracise** at 6.00 to 6.45pm

**Jo's Fit4all Class** at 7.00 to 7.45pm

(optional online weight loss support can also be offered)



**1st class FREE**

**Contact Jo: 07913 922926**

**Email: jo@josfit4all.co.uk**

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