



The Broadsheet

The newsletter for Badwell Ash, Badwell Green and Long Thurlow

Issue 110 April / May 2026



St Mary's Church – A new beginning?

St. Mary's Church, the only Grade 1 listed building in the village has just received the results of the 5 yearly Diocesan building survey and the outcome was not good. The lead covered roof over the South Aisle, which is 140 years old and has several leaks in it has reached the end of its life and will have to be completely replaced at significant cost. The Surveyor also condemned the severe dampness to the walls of the South Aisle, which has been progressively getting worse over the years as it is now degrading the fabric and structure of the building itself. Drastic steps are needed to resolve these issues within the next couple of years.

Additionally, the Parochial Church Council also wish to make St Mary's a valuable community asset whilst retaining its important role as a place of worship and to do this it will need to provide Toilets and a Kitchen.

The PCC has therefore appointed a Heritage Surveyor to prepare plans to carry out the repairs needed to remedy these defects and to provide new toilet and kitchen facilities. The Parish Council as one of the members of The Community Working Group have awarded a grant to the PCC to pay for the initial professional fee costs, for which the PCC are extremely grateful. Money will now be the key to the success of all these projects.

To provide the estimated £250,000 cost it's going to be necessary to carry out an ambitious fund-raising campaign through many grant applications as the sums needed are going to be way in excess of the village's fund-raising capacity. It's anticipated that a fund-raising committee will be set up which it is hoped will be part village and part PCC. Once completed, the future of our medieval church as a central pillar of our village will be guaranteed.

Howard Newman
Badwell Ash PCC

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badwellashparishcouncil.gov.uk/newsletter

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issue online



Notes for the diary

- 2nd April 2026 – St Mary's Church - Maundy Thursday Service at 6pm
- 3rd April 2026 – Easter Egg hunt – From St Mary's Church. Starts at 10am
- 18th April 2026 – Badwell Ash Community Litter pick Saturday. Meet at Village Hall at 10am
- 24th April 2026 – Quiz Night at the Village Hall – Doors open at 6:45pm
- 26th April 2026 – St Mary's – Church Sunday Holy Communion service at 9:30am
- 9th May 2026 – Plant Sale at St Mary's Church. From 9am – 2pm
- 16th August 2026 – Classic Car Show and fete, in aid of Cancer Research, at Badwell Ash Hall

BAPC Community News

The Parish Council continues to support the work of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) at St Mary's Church, Badwell Ash.

Recent grants have contributed to:

- Repairs to the automatic winding mechanism of the church clock
- The PCC's Quinquennial Report, which identifies maintenance needs and potential repair priorities for the coming years

While the report is not a schedule of works, it provides a valuable foundation for planning future maintenance and conservation efforts at St Mary's.

Green ConneXions

The Green ConneXions team met in January to plan their next steps for 2026 and beyond. It was a productive meeting and now we have to make the plans actually happen.

We have recently acquired an email address so Parishioners can contact us with any queries or suggestions.
greenconneXions-bap@outlook.com

Traffic Surveys

Badwell Ash & Long Thurlow Parish Council

Over the past five years, Badwell Ash and Long Thurlow have seen significant growth, with around 150 new homes completed and a further 70 now nearing completion. This expansion has naturally brought an increase in both construction and everyday traffic on our parish roads. Residents highlighted these concerns in the 2025 BA< Community Survey, where traffic speed and safety emerged as key priorities.

Traffic Surveys Commissioned by the Parish Council

To better understand the scale and nature of the issue, the Parish Council commissioned two formal Traffic Surveys, carried out by Suffolk Highways' Customer Experience and Community Works Team in November 2025. These surveys assessed:

- Traffic volumes
- Vehicle speeds
- Axle weights
- All main routes used through Badwell Ash and Long Thurlow

The findings have helped shape the next steps in developing appropriate and effective traffic-calming measures.

Traffic Calming Recommendations & Progress

Badwell Ash – Broadway/ Walsham Approach

Suffolk Highways recommended traffic-calming measures on The Street heading towards Broadway and Walsham. These recommendations were formally accepted by the Parish Council and are now progressing through Suffolk Highways' costing and planning stages.

Richer Road – 30mph Sign Relocation

The Parish Council continues to work with Suffolk Highways on the relocation of the mandatory 30mph sign on Richer Road. This change is essential to ensure the new Hartog Hutton development sits fully within the 30mph zone.

March 2026 Update

Dragons' Teeth Installed

The first phase of traffic-calming work has now been completed. White "Dragons' Teeth" chevron markings have been installed on The Street near Broadway, providing a clear visual reminder of the 30mph limit for vehicles entering Badwell Ash from Walsham-le-Willows.

Richer Road TRO Progress

The survey work required to relocate the 30mph sign on Richer Road is now complete. Suffolk Highways has provided costings to the Parish Council, and funding arrangements are being finalised.

The legal process for this change—a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO)—is now with Suffolk Highways to progress.



What Does a Parish Council Actually Do?

Written by; Tavid Dobson – Parish Clerk to Badwell Ash Parish Council



Understanding the Roles and Responsibilities Behind Your Local Council

Parish Councils are the first tier of local government—closest to the community, most accessible to residents, and often the most misunderstood. Many people are surprised to learn just how much a Parish Council is responsible for, and how much of village life is shaped by the decisions made around that table.

Here's an introduction at what the Badwell Ash Parish Council does, how it works, and why it matters.

A Voice for the Community

At its heart, the Parish Council represents the interests of Badwell Ash, Long Thurlow and Badwell Green residents. Councillors are elected volunteers who live locally and bring their experience, insight, and commitment to the table. Their role is to listen, understand local priorities, and make decisions that support the wellbeing, sustainability, and future of the parish.

This includes:

- Raising issues with district and county authorities
- Responding to consultations and planning proposals
- Championing local needs—from road safety to public transport and working closely with community groups



Managing Local Services and Amenities

The Parish Council looks after a surprising range of local assets and services:

- The playing fields behind the Village Hall, including playground equipment and outside gym, and other open spaces
- Footpaths, benches, noticeboards, bus shelters, waste bins and dog waste bins
- Street cleaning and maintenance of grit bins, village flower trugs and village signs
- The defibrillator in old Badwell Ash telephone box, and the defibrillator next to the Long Thurlow community hub
- Producing The Broadsheet Newsletter every 2months, and sharing regular community posts on the Badwell Ash Parish Council Facebook
- Community events and local initiatives e.g. Litter Picks

And the recent introduction of trained Highways Rangers working with local volunteers bring a real sense of pride and ownership to village life, helping keep shared spaces cared for in a way no external contractor can match. Their involvement will strengthen community bonds, build resilience, and ensure that maintenance is done with genuine local knowledge and a personal touch. Even when the Council isn't directly responsible for a service, it often plays a key role in coordinating with the relevant authority to ensure issues are addressed.

Planning and Development

One of the most visible responsibilities is reviewing planning applications. The Parish Council don't make the final decision—that sits with the Mid Suffolk District Council—but their comments carry weight because they reflect local knowledge.

The Parish Council considers:

- Impact on the character of the village
- Traffic, access, and infrastructure
- Environmental and heritage factors
- Community benefit or concern

This ensures development is thoughtful, sustainable, and in keeping with the parish's identity.

Financial Stewardship

Every Parish Council manages public money through an annual precept (part of your council tax). This funding must be used responsibly, transparently, and in line with strict regulations.

Key financial duties include:



- Setting the annual budget
 - Managing contracts and suppliers
 - Ensuring value for money
 - Maintaining accurate accounts and undergoing annual audit
- The Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) plays a central role in ensuring compliance and good governance.



Supporting Community Wellbeing

Beyond formal duties, Parish Councils often act as catalysts for community life. They support local groups, encourage volunteering, and help bring people together.

This might involve:

- Organising training sessions, events, or celebrations e.g. CPR and Defibrillator training
- Supporting environmental projects e.g. Toad management
- Working with the Village Hall, Church, and other partners
- Promoting accessibility and inclusion
- Helping residents navigate local services

In many ways, the Parish Council is the quiet engine behind a thriving, connected village.

Why It Matters

A Parish Council is most effective when residents feel informed, involved, and empowered. Whether you attend a meeting, raise a concern e.g. Potholes, volunteer for a project, or simply stay updated, your engagement helps shape the future of the parish.

Local government works best when it's a partnership—and the Parish Council is here to listen, support, and serve.

If you would like more information visit the Parish Council website at: www.badwellashparishcouncil.gov.uk

Or contact the Parish Clerk: badwellashpc@outlook.com

A step back in time

Written by: Pete Dixon – Badwell Ash Historical Society

Wherever you walk in Badwell Ash you are walking on history. If you grumble about the new houses that have recently popped up at both ends of the village just console yourself with the thought that our earlier Late Stone-age, Iron Age, Roman and Anglo-Saxons residents were thinking just the same as you, as wave after wave of 'incomers' plonked themselves down.

But although villages have always been changing there are parts of our parish which are probably not much changed from the way they were over a 1000 years ago.

Walk up the Broadway to the junction at Badwell Green, cross over the road and look for a broad path heading almost due east marked as a bridle path. There you will find yourself walking along a broad path, marked as Kiln Lane on some maps. A kilometer along you will cross a path going north and south. Follow that either way and you will be following exactly the same line that villagers have walked for well over a millennium. It's called Madge's Lane – and the reason we know this is because it is a 'Hundred path'.

In the glorious days before District Councils, County Councils and, dare we

say it, Parish Councils, local government still existed to collect taxes, to raise troops and to dispense justice. Before the Normans came England was already organised into Shires (our modern Counties) and each of those were split up into 'Hundreds', which comprised roughly the land that would support a hundred households.

For taxes to be collected and justice meted out people had to be clear about where the boundaries for each Hundred stopped and the next one started. So, in the days before mapping of any sort, the boundaries of those Hundreds and Shires had to be visible and well understood.

No satellite mapping for them so, instead, they relied on well-known and very visible boundaries which everybody understood.

Badwell Ash was on the edge of Blackbourne Hundred, next to neighbouring Hartismere Hundred, which included the parishes of Westhorpe and Wyverston. Madges Lane marked the boundary between those two Hundreds and it remains exactly the same today, forming a neat and exact dividing line between us and those same two parishes.



But if Madges Lane was an obvious boundary when the Blackbourne Hundred was first created (probably sometime around 960 AD) this surely means that the path itself (not to mention Kiln Lane) dates from well before then? Well used bridle paths didn't just spring up from nowhere and ours would almost certainly have been in use for centuries before that as a connecting route between adjoining small settlements.

Who first created it? Who knows? But as we look around the village today, it's worth wondering what marks, if any, will we leave on the landscape that will still be visible in another thousand years.



Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk



I bought a doll for my child recently. I thought it was manufactured by a well-known brand, but I suspect it might be counterfeit. How can I be sure and what are my rights?

You're right to seek advice about this issue, because counterfeit goods aren't only illegal, they can be dangerous.

Fake children's toys in particular, including dolls, often don't meet safety standards and can pose choking hazards - poor manufacturing can mean small parts are easily detachable.

Counterfeit goods are fake products designed to mimic the authentic ones sold by genuine brands. Sometimes it's easy to spot a knock-off, other times it can be harder to tell.

It's not just toys and games - things like clothing, footwear, e-cigarettes, perfumes and media devices can also be counterfeit.

Things to watch out for include strangely low prices from well-known brands and signs of poor quality - like missing security seals, bad or non-existent packaging, blurry logos and poor stitching.

You may also spot some spelling mistakes in the advert or on the packaging.

Looking at photos from official sellers can help when making comparisons, and it's important to only buy products from reputable sellers.

If you have purchased a counterfeit item, there are some steps you can take to try and get your money back. You're legally entitled to a full refund on fake goods within 30 days of your purchase. If it's been over 30 days since you paid, but less than six months, the seller can provide you with a real version of the item first. If they can't, then they're legally required to give you a full refund.

If you paid more than six months ago, you're only entitled to a part-refund based on how much you've used the item and how long you've had it.

Sometimes sellers might refuse to refund you, and argue the items were obviously fake because they were very cheap, but they're breaking the law by selling them and your legal rights still apply.

If this happens and you paid by debit card, contact your bank and ask to use the 'chargeback scheme'. If you paid by credit card and the item cost less than £100, you can ask to use the same scheme.

If you paid by credit card and the item cost between £100 and £30,000, tell your credit card company you want to make a 'section 75' claim to get your money back. To report counterfeit goods or get help getting your money back, contact the Citizens Advice Consumer Service. You can also report a seller to Trading Standards, which investigates criminal activity.

Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk can provide in depth advice on this issue and much more, including debt, finances, employment, benefits and family/relationships. You can contact them by phone on 01449 676060, visit in person at Milton House, 5 Milton Road South, Stowmarket IP14 1EZ or use the contact form at midsuffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us. Opening hours are Monday-Thursday 9.30am – 3.30pm and Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm.

Green Dilemmas - are we ignoring potential biosecurity risks to livestock farmers?

Richard Winch – richard@winchmail.net

UK farmers face a wide range of regulations and laws covering the treatment of animals, food safety, consumer standards and the protection of the environment. One issue that most people agree on is that it doesn't make sense to allow any imports to have lower standards than exist in the UK as this just undermines our own farmers and poses risks to citizens.

A key area of this legislation relates to food biosecurity standards and the need to maintain strict, science-based controls to ensure food safety and prevent the spread of diseases.

Avian flu is difficult to entirely eliminate as it is spread by migratory birds over wintering in the UK from countries where Avian Influenza is highly active. Two cases of bird flu or Avian Influenza (HPAVI - H5N1) were recently reported locally. As a result, protection zones were put in place by DEFRA.

Foot and mouth and African swine fever are mainly transmitted by contaminated meat so in theory

outbreaks can be controlled with strict border controls.

There have recently been confirmed cases of foot and mouth in Germany, Hungary and Slovakia. The single confirmed case in Germany in January 2025 is estimated to have cost one billion euros. The 2001 outbreak in the UK resulted in the culling of nearly 6.5 million animals and cost about £8 billion (at 2001 prices).

African swine fever is a highly contagious viral disease that affects pigs and wild boar. There have been recent outbreaks in many Eastern European countries but there has never been a major outbreak of swine fever in the UK.

However, there is a significant and glaring problem of illegal meat smuggling partly due the higher cost of producing high quality meat in the UK. The volume of illegally imported meat seized at Dover has increased 20 fold in the last 3 years.



Illegal meat imports are now being found in food establishments in Babergh and Mid Suffolk.

The illegal trade appears to be driven by smuggling gangs using a range of small producers in countries like Romania. The meat is being transported in unsanitary conditions in unrefrigerated trucks by drivers who are on the road for multiple days. If the driver is apprehended in the UK they have their meat confiscated but there are no further consequences and they are free to try again.

The NFU and some MPs have been highlighting concerns about this illegal trade. Unless a more coordinated and stronger set of enforcement rules are introduced we are likely to be running a major biosecurity risk.

Village Hall Update

Clive Hawkins – Chairman of Trustees



Time moves on and Spring is upon us, a time for change. Changes are also happening at the Village Hall as we seek to further improve the facilities be it cosmetic or in line with statutory requirements. All of this for the mutual benefit of regular and casual users alike. As a result of the more recent improvements we can report that additional users have been attracted to book the hall for their respective functions.

Recently we welcomed to the hall our local Member of Parliament, Adrian Ramsey who had been unable to attend our End of Summer Party last year. Needless to say Adrian was most impressed with the improvements to the halls in particular with inclusion of the "Green" elements included in the reconstruction. Whilst present, Adrian also held a Constituency Surgery. Our thanks also go to Andy Mellen and Richard Winch our County and

District Councillors, respectively who also attended the meeting.

The Quiz Night held in January turned out to be our most successful to date. The Spud meal was enjoyed by all of those who participated, with the raffle making a record sum. Our thanks to all those who came along to support their village hall. The next Quiz Night is scheduled for April 24th, book early.

Each month the Trustees committee meets to discuss all issues related to the running of the Village Hall. In April each year we hold our Annual General Meeting – AGM, for the re-election of Trustees and the appointment of new Trustees. With us losing the services of some of our long serving Trustees at the next AGM, all of whom we thank for their dedicated service, we are seeking new members to carry forward the work of ensuring the wellbeing of the Village Hall. Being a member Trustee is not an onerous



task but interesting and will be even more so with the proposed future development of the Village Hall. If you believe you can contribute to the halls future in the interests of the parish at large please come along to the AGM and make your presence known. You can also contact us on badwellashvh@btinternet.com beforehand if you have any questions.

The AGM is to be held on Wednesday 15th April 2026 at 7 pm in the smaller of the two halls. Please do join us.

In closing the trustees wish to thank all who have continued to support the Trustees in their endeavours to improve and maintain the Village Hall for the benefit of one and all.

Cyclists invited to support St Nicholas Hospice Care

St Nicholas Hospice Care is welcoming cyclists of all ages and abilities to take part in two special fundraising challenges this year the St Nic's Cycle Ride and the London to Paris Bike Ride.

The St Nic's Cycle Ride, taking place on May 10, brings together riders from across West Suffolk, Thetford and local villages for a friendly and community focused day out. With routes suited to families, casual cyclists and more experienced riders, it's a much loved event that continues to grow. Every mile cycled helps fund important services offered by the Hospice.

Registrations open on February 20, and the event is kindly sponsored by Atkins Dellow, with support from Maglia Rosso Cycling Centre.

For those looking for a bigger challenge, the London to Paris Bike Ride offers a memorable journey from capital to capital, organised in partnership with Discover Adventure.

because
you matter

St Nicholas
Hospice Care

There are three opportunities for you to take on this incredible challenge in 2026, 10 – 14 June, 22 – 26 July and 9 – 13 September. Pick the July date and you will be arriving in Paris the same day as the iconic Tour de France.

Registrations for the London to Paris Bike Ride close about three months before each ride and places are limited.

Find out more and register for either event here: https://stnicholashospice.org.uk/event_categories/cycling/



Jungle Gym Recipe – Posh Fish Pie

Hi everyone Jungle Gym here,

Surviving in the jungle can be stressful at the best of times. particularly when you have invited guests coming for dinner. What am I going to cook them? and how will I find the time when I'm just so busy surviving every day in the jungle? Well, here is a simple, quick and delicious posh fish pie that will impress any guest and leave them feeling safe, secure and warm inside!

Ingredients:

Filling:

400g Salmon fillets
200g Raw Scallops
250g Cooked King Prawns
40g Butter
1x heaped teaspoon of garlic granules

Sauce:

500ml semi-skimmed milk
1x small onion finely chopped
2x heaped tablespoons of plain flour
30g Butter
80g Grated Parmigiano cheese

In addition:

600g Peeled and chopped potatoes
2x Big knobs of butter!
200g defrosted frozen petits pois peas
40g Grated Parmigiano cheese

Method:

Begin by frying the salmon fillets in a large frying pan or wok with 40g of butter and a heaped teaspoon of garlic granules.. fry skin side down first for a couple of minutes then turn the fillets over.. using tongs and a sharp knife pull off the skin.. once evenly cooked through transfer the fillets to a medium sized Pyrex cooking bowl..

Now add the scallops to the pan and cook through until lightly browned all over.. transfer these to the cooking bowl as well.. strain the packet of cooked Tiger prawns and add these to the bowl..

In the meantime cook the chopped potatoes in a pan of boiling water for 20mins until tender.. strain off the water, add 2x knobs of butter and mash until fluffy..

Using the pan you cooked the salmon and the scallops in, add a further 30g of butter and the chopped onions and cook until soft.. now add 2x heaped tablespoons of plain flour and the milk.. using a whisk blend the ingredients together until the sauce begins to thicken then add the Parmigiano cheese and continue to stir until fully combined..

Transfer the sauce to the ingredients in the bowl and stir together..

Now you have everything ready to construct the pie..

Transfer the ingredients in the bowl to medium sized casserole dish and spread out evenly.. now add an even layer of peas.. and then spoon the mashed potato on top.. lastly sprinkle over with Parmigiano cheese..

Cook in the middle of the oven at 180°C for around 30mins or until the top is nicely browned..

This is one of my absolute favourite dishes, serve and enjoy..

Jungle Gym



Great Ashfield & Badwell Ash WI



Spring has finally arrived. The gardens are looking lovely with all the early spring flowers lifting their faces to the sun. Easter is early this year and hopefully the weather has been kind for this long weekend.

In 2024 the WI supported Standing with Giants by creating knitted and crocheted red poppies for their "For You Tomorrow" display. In total, 37,000 poppies were sent in from WI members across the country and formed a central display around the 18 soldier stillage crates in Normandy. Standing with Giant is now planning the restoration of the project. Carole, our Vice Chairman organised and sent out a pattern to our members who have knitted and crocheted over 200 poppies for the appeal and these have duly been despatched.

Our February meeting was a members meeting and we had two members of SARS come along to talk about CPR and to show us Life Saving Technics. They explained the difference between a heart attack and a Cardiac Arrest. Most of us got down on our knees and were shown how to do CPR to someone whom had, had a Cardiac Arrest. Hopefully none of us will have to use CPR but we all felt that we had learnt enough to offer help.

For our March Meeting we had a speaker from The Lucy Adams House in Bury St Edmunds. Lucy Adams House first opened in 1998, and it

has supported people experiencing homelessness ever since. They offer accommodation for up to 24 residents in a shared, supportive environment. Their goal is to provide a safe place to stay and to help people build a more stable future. Their project assistants and support workers are there around the clock. It was an interesting and very informative talk.

Our next three meetings – all listed below, are to be held in the Lord Thurlow Hall at Great Ashfield at 7.30pm unless otherwise stated. Our meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month. Afternoon meetings are held in the months of – December, January and February each year and are 2.30 to 4.30pm.

9th April 2026 – Evening Meeting at 7.30pm. This is an OPEN MEETING. Our speaker is from Suffolk Police who will talk about rural wildlife and heritage.

Come and find out more about what happens in our lovely County of Suffolk. Ladies and Gents you are all welcome to join us for the evening. Non-members £3 - which includes refreshments and a raffle ticket.

14th May 2026 – Evening Meeting at 7.30pm. It is our Annual General Meeting when we give reports on the previous year and we vote for our President and committee. We also hope to have a speaker from Mid Suffolk about refuse/recycling.



11th June 2026 – Evening Meeting at 7.30pm. Our speaker is Fran Saltmarsh with a talk on Corsets, Crinolines & Camisoles.

We would welcome any new members to join us. We are not a huge group but a very friendly one and we invite you to come and see what we are all about. All new visitors have 1 free meeting and then pay £3 for each of the next 2 meetings before deciding whether or not to join. This includes a raffle ticket and refreshments. Please feel free to ring me for any further information on 01359 259399.

With my best wishes
Midge Hawkins - President

Suffolk County Cllr Andy Mellen

As you are probably aware, the on/off local elections are now definitely back on, and will take place on Thursday May 7th. These elections would normally have taken place last May, but were postponed/cancelled due to the government wanting to make space for devolution and reorganisation. The U turns and changes of plan since then have been very frustrating. I have consistently opposed election postponement, in fact I don't think the government should even be able to do this, and I believe the law may be changed to remove this power from ministers in future. So democracy is back on, and I think that is a good thing. However, I will not be seeking re-election to Suffolk County Council,

so you will be electing a new county councillor in May.

As you may be aware, I'm also a district councillor for five villages around Bacton, and am the leader of the district council. With an announcement on reorganisation imminent (it should have happened by the time you read this) the job of leading the district council and seeing through the transition to the new unitary council(s) is enough to keep me busy.

The local Green Party will select a new candidate and you will no doubt be hearing from them and seeing them around over the next few weeks.

I have enjoyed being your representative over the last five years. Some things have been difficult – dealing with highways issues etc. But progress has been made – one of my last actions has been to support the parish council in their aspiration to move the 30mph speed limit further up Richer Road – and I hope this will soon be achieved.

I remain your county councillor until a replacement is elected in May, so until then, if I can help, please get in touch.

Cllr Andy Mellen
Email: andy.mellen@suffolk.gov.uk
07790 992619

Mid Suffolk District Council's Recycling Scheme

Making Sustainable Living Easier for Everyone

Mid Suffolk District Council (MSDC) continues to strengthen its commitment to sustainability with a recycling scheme designed to make responsible waste management simpler, clearer, and more accessible for households across the district. With improved collection schedules, expanded recycling options, and a focus on reducing landfill, the scheme supports residents in making everyday choices that benefit the environment.

A Smarter System for Household Waste

MSDC's colour-coded bins system helps residents sort waste quickly and confidently:

New bins and what goes in them:

- **Blue-Lidded Bin (Mixed Recycling):** Glass bottles and jars, plastic bottles, pots, tubs, trays, drinks cartons (Tetra Pak), tins, cans, and plastic film/bags
- **Green-Lidded Bin (Paper & Card):** Paper, cardboard, and shredded paper.
- **Food Waste Caddies:** Leftover food, meat, fish, bones, tea bags, coffee grounds, bread, pasta, and peelings.
- **Black Bin (General Rubbish):** All other non-recyclable waste.

This structure keeps recycling straightforward while ensuring the valuable materials are recovered rather than lost to landfill.

Weekly Food-Waste Collections

A major development in the district's approach is the new collection schedule:

- Food waste is collected weekly.
- Recycling (blue) every three weeks
- Paper (green) every three weeks
- General waste (black) every three weeks

This shift reflects national requirements for all councils to collect food waste separately during 2026. By removing food waste from general rubbish, the district can reduce emissions, cut disposal costs, and turn organic waste into useful resources such as compost or energy.

Beyond the Kerbside: Community Recycling Options

Not everything can go into the blue bin, so MSDC provides a network of additional recycling routes:

- Textile, book, and shoe banks located across the district
- Charity donation points for items that can be reused
- Guidance for electricals, batteries, and other tricky items
- Bulky-waste and clinical-waste services for specialist disposal needs

These options help residents recycle more and throw away less, even when dealing with unusual or awkward items.

Why It Matters

The recycling scheme is part of a wider effort to:

- Reduce the district's carbon footprint
- Increase recycling rates
- Support national sustainability targets
- Encourage responsible consumption and waste habits

By making recycling easier and more consistent, MSDC aims to empower every household to play a meaningful role in protecting the environment.

Collection	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3
Food Waste			
Refuse general rubbish			
Paper and Card			
Recycling glass, plastics, metal and cartons			

Volunteer to help care for the Flower Trug at St Marys Crescent

We're looking for a local volunteer to help look after the flower trug next to the newly installed benches.

The trug is being relocated next to the defib as part of an exciting new development for the village, with more to be shared in the next edition.

It's a small role, perfect if you enjoy a bit of light gardening and helping keep the village looking its best.

If you're interested, we'd love to hear from you.

Please contact the Parish Clerk at badwellashpc@outlook.com





At Woolpit Health Centre we are proud to operate a 'total triage' model. Every patient access request, whether online, telephone or walk-in, is clinically assessed and triaged by our 'on the day' GP team. A senior GP mentor who is always available to guide clinical decisions.

Requests are prioritised based on their level of urgency, then assigned to the healthcare professional best suited to meet individual needs. This may result in an urgent or routine call or appointment or self-care/signpost to other services.

In the 12 months since we switched our online request service to Anima, we have received over 45,000 requests, an average of 175 per day (Monday – Friday). Approximately one third of these requests are completed by our reception team on behalf of patients who telephone or walk-in.

Andi, our new Virtual Care Navigator!

On Thursday 5th February 2026 we launched a new automated system called Andi, designed to help improve how we manage patient requests and phone calls.

Andi is a Virtual Care Navigator and has been created by the same team behind Anima. We will be trialling over the next 3 months.

What is Virtual Care Navigation?

When you call the surgery, instead of waiting in a queue, you can speak to Andi, who will ask you questions, take down your request and send it to the triage team for review.

Benefits for Patients

- No need to wait in a call queue.
- A quick and easy way to submit your request.
- Fast and efficient triage.

Benefits for the Health Centre

- Frees up staff time to focus on patient care.
- Helps us manage requests fairly and efficiently.
- Reduces waiting times and phone line pressure.

A quick note: Andi isn't a robotic sounding voice – he sounds quite natural! This may feel a little unusual at first, but we encourage you to give it a try.

Thank you and best wishes from Woolpit Health Centre

CARPET BOWLS

Clive Hawkins

New Year, new hope and following on from our Open Afternoon we are pleased to report that we have some new members.

The open afternoon was a little quieter than we would have hoped for. Nevertheless those who attended, current members included had the opportunity to enjoy and show potential new comers the game of Carpet Bowls.

Undeterred the members continue to enjoy the game, the comradery and the socialising that the meetings every Tuesday brings. In fact one new member and I quote, have said that they "cannot understand why more people do not play". A sentiment expressed by many more.

It is our intention to hold another Open Afternoon towards the Summer time, so do keep an eye open for an announcement with details. However in the meantime if you want to give Carpet Bowls a try we are in the Village Hall; Tuesday evenings 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm, why not look in.

Contact - Clive on 01359 259399

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Please note as of February 2023 D A Bevan has been taken over by MK Autos



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Easter Egg hunt

From St Mary's Church Badwell Ash, to Langham Church.

Friday 3rd April 2026
10:00am start

£5 per child, every child gets an Easter Egg, booking only.

Refreshments and Raffle will be available at Langham.

For any more information & to book, contact

Julia: 07542 778558
Stephen: 07714 273669

St. Mary's Church
 Badwell Ash

PLANT SALE

Saturday 9th May 2026
9:00am - 2:00pm



Stall by Porch Plants
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Tombola & Refreshments

Fundraising for St Mary's Church

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 07714 273669





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QUIZ NIGHT

**BRING YOUR OWN
FOOD & DRINK**

FRIDAY 24TH APRIL

Doors open 6:45pm | Quiz Starts 7:30pm

**BADWELL ASH VILLAGE HALL,
IP31 3DG**

Quiz Ticket = £5 pp - Teams of 6 ppl max

**Register your team & please pay
by Monday 13th April**

Contact: Chloe 07808 715266 or

Email: badwellash.vh@gmail.com

Cancellations: please notify us asap. A 50% refund applies within 48 hours of the event, a full refund will be issued if your tickets can be reassigned to those on the waitlist.