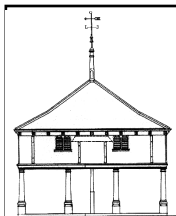


New Buckenham Parish News



October 2020

Cover Photo: Nathusius' Pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus nathusii*), one of the many types of bat to make its home in New Buckenham. Read more about the latest results of the Norfolk Bat Survey on pages 21–22. (Photo: <https://www.birdwords.co.uk/>)



New Buckenham Parish News

October 2020

Harvest Festival

The Harvest festival at St Martin's on 11th October will be an odd affair this year with all the restrictions, however, we shall try to make it properly celebratory. So, it would be appreciated if we could have gifts of fruit, vegetables, flowers, and anything else. They will go to St Mary's or the Food Bank afterwards, as appropriate, so will be doubly welcome.

Helen Pearson

Parish News Online

It is possible to access an online version of *Parish News* at <http://newbuckenham.net/index.php/parish-news>. If you find yourself with time to fill, you can download back-issues of the magazine from 2017 onwards!

Parish News Committee

Thank You

We would like to thank the sponsors of this month's edition. We greatly appreciate this support, which helps to fund the production of the magazine. If you would be interested in sponsoring a future issue of *Parish News*, please contact Mary Dowson (01953 860320 or mdowson@btinternet.com).

Parish News Committee

Village Hall Update

As some of you are aware, the Village Hall is now open and we are pleased to welcome back many of our groups to use the Hall. We have restricted use to the main auditorium to ensure the space for social distancing. We have increased the cleaning regime, so the Hall is cleaned each day, and provided easy access to sanitiser, bins and wipes, with lots of help and guidance posters to remind us all to 'Take care, but carry on'.

The Village Hall Trust AGM took place on 25th August. The minutes and a list of the Trustees will be published on the web site: <https://www.newbuckenhampvillagehall.co.uk>.

The following is a summary of what we covered in the meeting:

The Trustees operate very much as a team with a rolling Chairperson throughout the year. The report from the year 2019–20 was full of good news: plans to refurbish, redecorate, update the lighting, the audio-visual equipment and the WiFi were all taking place. The Hall was well used, and the biggest problem was fitting in those keen to make use of the facilities. The cinema nights were increasing in audience numbers and we were looking forward to our annual visit from Eastern Angles at the end of March – then, everything had to stop.

We struggled at the AGM to recapture the time before the Covid-19 restrictions changed our sense of what is normal. What was highlighted is how the Trust works as a team, with Stevie Hobley as our administrator, booking clerk and finance officer supporting the Trustees in their decision-making. She was thanked for all her hard work in preparing the hall for reopening.

Continued on page 6...

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We were happy to announce a legacy from Brian Knappett's estate, together with last year's legacy from Joyce Little. Their generosity will help secure the future of our Village Hall. The Trustees thanked Alice Cattermole for her work on the Community Grant from Breckland to help with the increased expenditure caused by Covid-19.

Sadly, Sandra Lester, who has been a Trustee for nearly 10 years, has resigned. Sandra was instrumental in bringing the cinema to New Buckenham Village Hall. From small beginnings, working with Creative Arts East, she gave time, organisational skills and lots of effort to build up the film night events which were such a community success. She set the benchmark for where we hope to be in the future.

We do have some places on the Trust, so if you are interested in getting involved in sustaining and maintaining our community hub then please do let us know. We are a friendly, flexible bunch, always happy to take on new ideas, skills and ways of doing things to keep the Hall operational.

It has been a pleasure to see the Hall being used again and, with the winter months ahead, we hope to welcome more groups back. During this difficult time, we have all come to value community and social interaction. The Village Hall Trust are working hard as a team to provide as safe a place as is possible for people to meet and engage.

For information, advice and guidance on what's on and how to hire the Hall please contact Stevie Hobley on 07469 715517 or email bookings@newbuckenhamvillagehall.co.uk.

Juliet Fulford for the Village Hall Trust



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New Buckenham Parish Council

Our October Parish Council meeting will take place on Tuesday 13th at 7:30pm and will take place via Zoom. In order to join us, you will need to download Zoom on to your laptop, tablet or phone. Details of how to join us for the meeting will be posted a few days beforehand on the Parish Council website and on our noticeboard on the Village Green. All parishioners are welcome to sign in. In the meantime, contact details for the Parish Council can be found on the back cover of *Parish News*. Please contact me or any other councillor if you need further information about the meeting or any other Parish Council matters.

Future Parish Council meetings will take place on 10th November and 8th December.

Karen Hobley

Summary of Draft Minutes September 2020

1. Minutes of the July meeting approved

2. Matters Arising

Progress report by the Clerk.

- a) draft of a Complaints Policy for consideration.
- b) following the digital mapping of the cemetery, Cllr Bingham and Clerk will liaise to incorporate into existing cemetery records.
- c) a new dog bin has been installed adjacent to the cricket pitch.
- d) two bins on the Market Place are in poor condition, ownership to be clarified.

Continued on page 11...

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Architectural Salvage

- d) six people on the waiting list for the allotments, Clerk has written to holders to see if any plots will become available
- e) Cllr Crossman has ordered replacement parts from Playdale for equipment repairs.
- g) Cllr Bingham is pursuing online banking with Barclays.
- h) Breckland Council is actively dealing with non-payment of Council Tax for Church Farm House which has been empty for several years.
- i) The Eastern Region Office of Historic England have been notified of concern expressed regarding horse grazing at Buckenham Castle, we await a reply

3. Public Participation

- a) District/County Cllr Report
 - i) Banham Poultry Covid 19 outbreak appears under control.
 - ii) Cllr Askew will speak to Highways about insufficient notice given for recent roadworks.
 - iii) Chair asked Cllr Askew to thank Breckland Council staff for their support relating to the pandemic.
- b) Parish Cllr Reports
 - i) Chair awaiting a response from Norfolk Wildlife Trust regarding land ownership of the Common.
 - ii) Football Club needs new nets, a request for funding to be considered at next meeting.

Continued overleaf...

iii) Only 8% of the village have so far signed up for County Broadband, a higher proportion is needed to be financially viable. It was agreed that the PC should not actively promote a commercial company, but it was suggested further information could be provided for parishioners. Cllr Bingham is to circulate a document for comment before placing it in *Parish News*.

iv) Parish News is facing financial difficulties due to a fall off in income during lockdown. Cllr Dowson to put forward a request at the next meeting for financial support from the PC.

c) Parishioners' Comments and Questions

i) Questions were raised regarding works being carried out on a field in Cuffer Lane. Clerk agreed to take this up with Planning.

4. Financial Matters

a) Financial Report for 1st July to 31st August was noted.

b) Payments for August and September were approved.

5. Planning

a) Application received: replacement of five casement windows and sills – Thatched Cottage, Marsh Lane – no comment.

b) Decisions notified: 13 St Martin's Gardens – approved; Inn on the Green, Chapel Street – approved; Somerville, Boosey's Walk – approved.

6. Neighbourhood Plan

Progress on revising the draft to reflect the consultation continues. Further work will now be needed to reflect the recently published Planning White Paper. It is proposed to

hold an informal workshop with Parish Cllrs, when possible.

7. Play Area

- a) Cllr Crossman has repaired a broken swing, the broken fence panel not considered a safety issue.
- b) Acquisition of adult play equipment. Cllr Martin to arrange a site visit with Sunshine Gym to report back at the next meeting with costings. Clerk to investigate grant options.

8. Noticeboard

The poster for the third panel is complete. Agreed to arrange a date for its unveiling and publicise in *Parish News*.

9. Amenities

- a) Grounds Maintenance: work agreed to trees in the cemetery and along Moat Lane by BTS.
- b) Churchyard: additional work to the lime tree at the main gate is needed. Cllr Manning to request a quote.
- c) Cricket Pitch: 2019 rental has been paid. Agreed to the same rent for 2020.

10. Complaints Policy

Resolved to adopt the formal complaints policy provided by the Clerk based on a template provided by the Society of Local Council Clerks.

11. Coronavirus Update

It was hoped to resume village hall meetings but following advice meetings will continue online for some time.

Mary Dowson for the Parish Council

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Drop-In Café: Monday 5th October

Due to the recent new 'Rule of Six' which came in on Monday 14th September, the Village Hall Trust have advised that this will now not be able to take place.

The main reason is because, by its very nature this is an *ad hoc* event, with people arriving and leaving as time suits them and therefore we cannot guarantee that there would only be six people attending and of course the idea was to keep the event fluid. It is highly likely that the next two, on 2nd November and 7th December, will also be affected although if we ARE allowed to, then we WILL meet.

I will keep you posted!

Kathie Steel

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Film Nights

Lockdown started only three weeks after one of our most successful film nights ever. Nearly 100 people attended our screening of *Judy* in the village hall on 29th February.

Although the Hall is now open again with many safety precautions in place, we feel it is not yet the right time to welcome back audiences, even with social distancing, especially as many of our regular filmgoers fall into the vulnerable age group.

The cinema will certainly return when the time is right. I will continue to be involved, but not as the main organiser. We are always on the lookout for more people to help run things, especially the film projection. If you enjoy films and want to be part of our team, please contact Geoff Gildersleeve or Gerry Walsh on 861027.

We would like to thank all our filmgoers and look forward to your continued support when we are able to re-start, though that will probably not be before the new year.

Sandra Lester

New Buckenham Arts

Double Standards?

Dog owners are castigated for allowing their animals to foul the pavements and walkways. What about horse owners? While owners cannot control the movements of their animals, there would appear to be one rule for one and one for the other.

Ed Dowling

Darren Rush

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Hard Times for Church Mice

Our August coffee morning – the only one we have been able to hold this year – was a great success. We loved seeing everyone again and we were able to send a cheque for £217.50 to Leeway, supporting those who had suffered domestic abuse during lockdown. In a way we felt it marked the start of a return to normality after many weeks when the church could not be used, so we were sorry to have to cancel the September coffee morning to comply with the latest restrictions

Our finances have been affected, as you would expect. We have missed the generous donations from the Art Exhibition, the August Fete, and the events run by our lovely V&V friends. And with no services during lockdown, our collections and donations have been reduced. Expenses do not disappear, we have just had the wiring tested and the lightning conductor also has to be tested, otherwise we are uninsured and there are some Acts of God which we prefer to be prepared for!

But it is not all bad news: many people have continued – and started – to give regularly with cash donations and by making payments directly into our church bank account. This has been most encouraging even though, alas, it does not bring our income up to pre-Covid levels. A success story has been our book stall, now being extended to include DVDs (ready for the second lock-down?!). Susan will shortly be circulating the Flamingo Paperie greetings card catalogues, which would have been on sale at the coffee morning, and Sue Allen has promised 10% of anything we sell. Please continue to support these!

The bookcases and, recently, the books in pews seem to add to the feeling of busy-ness in the church – and, in spite of all the rules and regulations, the church is carrying on with its fundamental purposes. We do have plans for Christmas – watch this space!

Continued on page 20...



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Some good people have donated the money they would have spent at the coffee mornings, and Sue Cattermole has kindly offered to have a collecting pot for this in Kings Stores. Your name and address on the envelope will enable us to claim Gift Aid. If you would like to donate to the church, in cash or through the bank, either of us can also take donations or let you have our bank details.

Susan Jowett (860929) and Christopher Pearson (860251)

St Martin's PCC

St Martin's Church – October			
Sunday 4th	11:00am	Parish Eucharist	Trinity 17
Sunday 11th	6:30pm	Harvest Evensong	Trinity 18
Sunday 18th	11:00am	Morning Prayer	Trinity 19
Sunday 25th	11:00am	Morning Prayer	Last Sunday of Trinity

Night Night Buckenham Bats!

‘Good gracious! Is that the time? Nearly October! We must be going to sleep now.’

Yes, it’s almost hibernation time again. The bats around New Buckenham will be heading to the land of nod in trees, roof-spaces, sheds and such like. Of course, since they whizz about at night throughout the summer, many of us will hardly be aware of any change when they’ve gone. So, for the record, here’s what we have discovered during this extraordinary year of 2020.

We’ve recorded across 44 locations and will continue until it gets too cold. Thanks to all the village residents who have had the bat box equipment in their garden. New Buck bats are to be found hanging out around the castle, the church, the SSSI, whizzing up the Tas Valley Way (Cuffer Lane), doing hand-brake turns on Marsh Lane, Chapel Hill, Chapel Street, Rosemary Lane and Church St, skidding across the Market Place, the Village Hall Playing Fields, the cricket pitch, St Martin’s Gardens, Tanning Lane, Moat Lane, to name but a few... and in the fields all around.

As a result of our recordings over the last five years, in conjunction with Dr Stuart Newson of the British Trust for Ornithology (who instigated the Norfolk Bat Survey in 2013), we know that of the 18 UK bat species this village has no fewer than 11 of them. Recording this year revealed, for the first time, the presence of the Whiskered Bat and also Nathusius’ pipistrelle.

Also, for the first time, Great Britain this year published an IUCN (International Union for Nature Conservation) red list of the most endangered mammals. It includes six types of severely at risk bats. Incredibly, four of them are here in New Buckenham!

Continued overleaf...

Our list now looks like this: Barbastelle (IUCN red list – most threatened), Brown long-eared bat, common pipistrelle, Daubenton's bat, Leisler's bat (IUCN red list – near threatened), Noctule, Serotine (IUCN red list – most threatened), Soprano pipistrelle, Natterer's bat, Nathusius pipistrelle (IUCN red list – near threatened), Whiskered bat.

Dr Newson is impressed and puts it down to the close-knit nature of the buildings, the green and blue (water) corridors, the proximity of the SSSI, the fields, meadows and the hedgerows which supply insects for our flying friends.

If you want to ensure that you create a bat-happy location for the wake-up call in March next year, here are a few ideas:

- Wildlife friendly things to attract insects. This could be a water feature (though you may want to consider whereabouts you'd put something that might attract midges or gnats).
- Put up a bat box – many builders are designing these into new housing developments.
- Plant night flowering, scented flower species e.g. wisteria, honeysuckle, evening primrose.
- Similarly trees and hedgerows encourage insects and offer great bat highways.

This village's results are even more significant since, due to the pandemic, the Norfolk Bat Survey was suspended this year. Batman Superior (Dr Newson) had lent us the kit last year, so we were able to continue whilst others couldn't collect data. It was never more important to know what's going on in these extraordinary times. So, thanks to all and to Dr Newson for unscrambling our electronics to identify species, and well done us! You can find more info here: <https://www.batsurvey.org/>.

Janet Trewin

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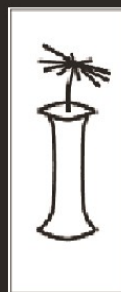
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County Broadband

A message from New Buckenham Parish Council

One of the main issues to come out of the Neighbourhood Plan surveys was demand for better and faster broadband. With so many of us now using Zoom, Google Meets, Skype and other platforms, streaming TV and film, and working from home the demand on the broadband network is increasing all the time. This became increasingly evident during lockdown. High-speed broadband is the answer and will get rid of the frustrating spinning disc!

To cope with this increasing demand we need a fibre network to each household. Currently we have ‘fibre to the cabinet’ with the last link being through copper cables – these are slow and have inadequate capacity for modern demands.

Fibre broadband gives significantly faster download and upload speeds than those currently available and, equally important, more bandwidth to increase capacity on the network. County Broadband is offering to install ‘fibre to the premises’ broadband to all homes in New Buckenham and have funds available (provided by Aviva) to progress with the project as soon as they have sufficient numbers of household pre-orders.

There is currently no prospect of any other company (such as Openreach) putting in ‘fibre to the premises’ broadband services to villages, so County Broadband are the only option in the foreseeable future.

County Broadband are contacting all households in the village to encourage participation in the fibre broadband scheme. They need at least 25% of households to pre-order to allow the funding to be released and the scheme design to start. There is no up-front payment until the broadband service becomes live (and payment can be deferred to the end of your current broadband contract).

County Broadband are OFCOM regulated and, most importantly, they have access to Openreach infrastructure such as telegraph poles and underground ducting and chambers. This means that, mostly, the new service can be installed without the need for new overhead cables, although some will be probably be necessary.

The Parish Council encourages households to find out more information – whilst the Parish Council are supportive of the project, this is a decision for each household.

You may have listened in on one of the County Broadband webinars where they described the services they can provide. If you missed the webinars and want information give me a call or send an email, or contact Jonathan Spinks at County Broadband (jonathan.spinks@countybroadband.co.uk) directly for more information.

Would you be willing to have County Broadband/Fibre broadband sign outside your house? Please let me know and I will arrange it.

Many other local villages are progressing towards fibre networks – don't let New Buckenham get left behind!

Andrew Bingham

andrew.bingham100@gmail.com / 861150 / 07702 119318

200 Club Lucky Winners

Thank you for your continued support of the Village Hall. Here are the lucky winners for August's draw. If you would like to join the 200 Club, please call Paul Madden (860850).

£20	Julie Thorndike, Emma Bailey
£10	Sally Elvin, Liz Adams, Gordon Andrew, Gene Womack, Ellie Aveston-Pallet, Claire Heasman, David Francis

New Buckenham in Lockdown

We've been sent some lovely lockdown photos, but could do with more! Please do send us yours – and it's the memories that are important, not the quality of the photos!

Out and about, the garden or indoors, in 'distanced' company or alone, pets and landscapes. These all make good subjects and will be welcomed to the collection. Has anyone taken some photos of work or using Zoom?

We'll put the photos online later this year and hope to display some of them as prints at next year's Photoshow – fingers crossed that we can hold that event!

Please send your photos as an email attachment to photoshow@newbuckenham.net. If you run into technical problems please let me know.

Charles Oxley, New Buckenham Arts

(860708 / photoshow@newbuckenham.net)

TEL - 01953 860008

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ANGEL CAKES TEAROOM

NEW BUCKENHAM
NR16 2AF

FACEBOOK:
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/ANGELCAKESBYSTACEY/



We are a family run Tearooms/Cafe specializing in great homemade cooked food, refreshments, home comforts, customer service & most importantly CAKE!!!

Pop in for a cup of coffee & cake or a spot of lunch in a relaxed environment. Stay as long as you like & chat with friends and consider us your home away from home.

Table service is provided so no need to wait around, just take a seat, you may lounge on the ground floor by the fireplace or sit upstairs by the large windows overlooking the beautiful village of New Buckenham.

SERVICES

- Bespoke Celebration Cakes (Birthdays, Weddings, Christenings etc)
- Afternoon Tea (Booking only)
- Private functions (Birthdays, Christenings, Funerals, Meetings etc) (Capacity 25 upstairs, 12 downstairs)
- Outside Catering (Functions, Corporate, Afternoon Tea etc)
- Wedding Afternoon Tea Catering (All China Supplied)
- Cake Decorating Classes.

For all inquires please speak to a member of our staff in store or by telephone or you can drop us a message through our Facebook page.



New Buckenham Parish Council

- Chair:** Karen Hobley
(01953 860529 / karenhobley@hotmail.com)
- Vice-Chair:** Andrew Bingham
(01953 861150 / andrew.bingham100@gmail.com)
- Councillors:** Don Crossman (01953 861246)
Mary Dowson (01953 860320)
Steve Highton (01953 860499)
Mary Manning (01953 861242)
Paul Martin (01953 861117)
- Clerk:** Trevor Wenman
(01379 641423 / parishclerk@newbuckenham.net)

The Parish Council meets at 7:30pm on the second Tuesday of every month. At present, the meetings are being held online via Zoom. Further information about how to join these meetings, and the Parish Council more generally, can be found on our notice board on the Village Green or on our website www.newbuckenhampc.info.

Contributions for the November 2020 issue of *New Buckenham Parish News* should be submitted by 6:00pm on Friday 23rd October 2020 to Linda Bryan, Pine Cottage, Marsh Lane (861107), Michael Boswell, Peel House, Chapel Street (860015), Richard Hoggett, 9 Church Street (860136) or by email to editor@newbucknews.co.uk.