

# YOXFORD PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the meeting of YOXFORD PARISH COUNCIL

held on

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2024

at 7pm

Yoxford Village Hall

### 1. Attendance and apologies

#### Attendees:

Cllr. Janet Gardner  
Cllr. Ian Patterson  
Cllr. Angela Roper  
Cllr. Deborah Thompson  
Cllr. David Tower  
Cllr. Hazel Wheeler

#### Apologies accepted for absence:

Cllr. David Childs  
Cllr. Laura Greenberg  
Cllr. Nicol McCallum  
Cllr. John Walford

District Cllr. Julia Ewart

#### In attendance:

County Cllr. Richard Smith  
3 members of the public  
Trudy Charles - Clerk/RFO

### 2. To receive declarations of interest and to consider requests for dispensations: none

### 3. Public Forum

- a) Members of the public may address the Council on any agenda item: a member of the public made the following observations and comments:
- i. The state of the cemetery is overgrown and he feels that since he raised the same point last September, nothing has been done. Cllr. Thompson summarised the current approach and the appointment of a new contractor in March who has been focused mainly on grass cutting around the village's green spaces and that, now the season is close to its end, the contractor will be working on additional tasks such as hedges and small trees. She gave reassurances that there is a plan to manage this area and ensure it's improved overall. Cllr. Thompson volunteered to keep the resident in touch with works.
  - ii. An additional village map was requested but nothing's been done. Cllr. Tower suggested this matter be added to the agenda for December's meeting.
- b) To receive a report from County Cllr. Richard Smith:
- i. At the County Council's most recent monthly cabinet meeting preparatory work was completed to submit to central government in order to be considered to be awarded local control of Adult Education budget. County Cllr. Smith outlined that it's hoped that come April 2025, Suffolk will have control of local priorities in this area.
  - ii. At end of Q2, Suffolk County Council is on budget despite a "slight overspend". A public consultation on 2025/6 budget can be accessed via the SCC website and runs until 15<sup>th</sup> December.
  - iii. Additional financial resources estimated at £20million, will be required to fund the recommendations from the 50+ Section 19 Flood Reports. Eight such reports have been completed with the remaining 48 to be completed within one year. Suffolk County Council awaits responses from central government regarding additional funding.
  - iv. Cllr. Thompson asked County Cllr. Smith for guidance on who to contact with regard the condition of the village's pavements. He outlined that funding for 2024/5 had already been allocated following extensive surveys in the county but that he would take a look at any documentation and pass these onto the new Highways Engineer, Jo Kerridge.

- v. At this point, a third member of the public arrived who was permitted by the Chairperson, Cllr. Tower, to address the Council. She raised a number of matters including the planning applications by Cockfield Hall, the varied responsibilities of Anglian Water and the impact both might have on developments locally and village life generally. There followed a discussion about these issues.
- c) To receive a report from the District Cllr. Julia Ewart: a report was circulated prior to the meeting and is included as an appendix to these minutes.

#### 4. Minutes

- a) Cllr. Patterson proposed and Cllr. Roper seconded, that the minutes of the Meeting held on 3rd October 2024 be approved as accurate. All present voted in favour.
- b) Matters arising to be covered within the agenda.

#### 5. Councillors' and Clerk's Reports

- a) To receive an update on the Casual Vacancy: the Clerk summarised that she'd received confirmation from the Elections Team in Lowestoft that no election had been called for and so the Council was now permitted to co-opt an additional member. She reported that to date, no interest or applications had been received.
- b) *Cemetery*: to discuss further, ideas regarding a memorial wild flower area/rose garden:
  - i. there was a further discussion about how best to proceed and this was followed by a proposal from Cllr. Thompson that, particularly in light of matters raised in the Public Forum, Council should focus upon the improving the overall condition of the area before exploring further developments. Cllr. Patterson seconded this proposal and all present voted in favour.
  - ii. Cllr. Roper feedback to colleagues regarding her findings on commemorative bench plaques. Arrangements will need to be decided regarding application, cost, wording, finish. In principle, the idea was supported.

**ACTION: Clerk to draft policy and pricing schedule and submit to next meeting for consideration.**

- c) *Children and Young People* (Cllrs. McCallum & Gardner): no report.
- d) *Church*: no report.
- e) *Community Partnership* (Cllr. Thompson): next meeting scheduled for January and is likely to be hosted at Yoxford Village Hall.
- f) *Volunteers Work Party*: to discuss and agree a budget for new tools: there was a general discussion regarding most recent work, next dates for work party and the tasks to be prioritised:
  - i. leaf fall is considerable and will need regular clearing over the coming weeks, along with clearance of the area at the bottom of Strickland Hill and the bottom of High St.
  - ii. state of the trees in the village particularly along the Old High Rd/Churchyard was discussed along with whose responsibility their maintenance are. The Clerk summarised her understanding that as a closed churchyard, the site and trees are the responsibility of East Suffolk Council. However with some of the lime trees growing through power lines, National Power would need to be contacted regarding any maintenance.
  - iii. Cllr. Thompson has gathered an extensive quote for tools for submission for consideration by the County Council's Community Self-Help Scheme. Clerk to submit this.
  - iv. It was agreed that the next Work Party date will be: 23<sup>rd</sup> November 10am.

**ACTION: Cllr. Thompson to lead the work party. Clerk to inform all volunteers of the next date.**

- g) *Yoxwood* (Cllr. Childs): no report.

## 6. Strategic Objectives 2024-2025

- a) To receive further updates concerning the legal transfer of Yoxwood View play area (Priority 1.2): the Clerk shared the latest information since the last meeting. The solicitor has advised that the matter regarding the disclosure of a claim against Flagship by a householder is outside of his area of expertise and that the Parish Council should make direct contact with Flagship in order to expedite the matter. This update was discussed by Council and it was then proposed by Cllr. Tower, seconded by Cllr. Patterson and unanimously supported by all present, that the Clerk would make direct contact with Flagship and keep the Council informed.  
**ACTION: Clerk to contact Flagship.**
- b) To receive an update on progress on works to implement the revised traffic management measures on Old High Road and Fish Shop Hill. (Priority 3.1) and to reconsider additional measures agreed at last meeting: no additional update other than already provided at October's meeting. The additional measures, those being 30mph wheelie bin stickers was discussed again. It was agreed that to spend over £200 on stickers for bins that would only be on show every 14 days was not good value for money nor would it have any meaningful impact on drivers' speeds. Cllr. Tower proposed that September's decision to make said purchase should be revoked. Cllr. Patterson seconded this proposal and all present voted in favour.
- c) To consider any information for communicating (Priority 2.1) and to discuss further ways that the Council can improve access to information for the parish and agree next steps: there was a general discussion regarding key matters to be shared with the local community via the monthly newsletter. These were all/any updates regarding Sizewell C and notification of an Impact Study being completed by the University of Suffolk, volunteer dates, Christmas tree lighting event (if details confirmed by the church).

## 7. Parish Matters

- a) To receive and discuss relevant updates regarding the Sizewell C project, including:
- i. Cllr. Tower summarised the presentation by Sizewell C to Darsham PC on the works surrounding Darsham and Yoxford on 8<sup>th</sup> October.
  - ii. The Clerk summarised confirmed arrangements for a presentation by Sizewell C regarding the Yoxford roundabout and Link Road: 20<sup>th</sup> November 6pm: meeting with the Parish Council followed by at 7pm a public meeting. Both to be held at the Village Hall.  
**ACTION: Clerk to publicise.**
  - iii. With Cllr. Walford's absence, no update from the Community Forum meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> October.
  - iv. Cllr. Patterson summarised key points from the Northern Transport Forum on 6<sup>th</sup> November. His view was that the speed at which information was imparted prevented close scrutiny or challenge. Key points included:
    - I. Works to upgrade Darsham train station are due to begin end Q3/early Q4 2025
    - II. Monitoring speed on B1122: transport monitoring can be found on East Suffolk website.
    - III. The site for the Average Speed Camera (ASC) on the B1122 had not been confirmed.
    - IV. Attendees stressed the need for advance notification of archaeological works, and the desirability of sharing information about any finds or significant discoveries with relevant parishes.
    - V. Attendees expressed disappointment that the forum did not include a high-ranking police officer to respond to concerns about traffic and general enforcement. The Chair will write to the Chief Constable.
    - VI. Attendees emphasised that compensatory planting for trees and other displaced vegetation needed to be properly looked after for a period of years following their planting, until such time as they were fully established and self-sufficient.

- b) To receive an update on East Suffolk Council's 2024/5 Keep the Heat: thermal imaging project: the Clerk summarised that this had yet to be booked as Cllr. Walford had not yet shared his availability. Once this was known, the Clerk will explore remaining bookings.
- c) To receive an update on all matters regarding the requirements of riparian responsibility and agree next steps: Cllrs. Thompson, Tower and the Clerk shared the following:
- i. They completed a walk to survey the general condition of the river and bank alongside the allotments and Yoxwood.
  - ii. This walk informed the idea to meet with teams at Yoxwood at Yoxford Allotment Association to ensure joined up thinking and working. This meeting is due to happen 10<sup>th</sup> November.
  - iii. A short and long term plan to manage the trees is required. This may require a tree survey.
  - iv. Work to clear the bank would be best done in early Spring.
  - v. To discharge the Council's riparian responsibility, contact with the two neighbouring land owners will be required.
  - vi. Cllr. Thompson is leading on the collection of quotations from local tree specialists.
- d) To receive and discuss relevant updates regarding the Sea Link project: the Clerk shared a recent update regarding the halting of further funding to the consortium which had led to this statement from Sea Link: "...the consortium supports the Secretary of State's decision and will not be further pursuing a coordinated offshore connection..." It was proposed by Cllr. Patterson and seconded by Cllr. Tower that this standing agenda item be reworded as updates regarding "all other NSIPs". This was supported by everyone in attendance.
- e) To receive an update from the Clerk on the Parish Council's response to a resident's email regarding concerns about its decision on Donkey Meadow and its general working practices: the Clerk shared that Council's response would be emailed to the resident the next day. As the resident had requested a confidential response, it will not be available to the public.
- f) To finalise arrangements regarding the purchase of a Christmas tree and an annual festive 'Yoxlights' event for the village. The item was discussed:
- i. Cllr. Wheeler is liaising with the Pegg family regarding their providing a tree.
  - ii. The former Chair has a star and has offered his help to install the tree. Council shared its gratitude for his help.
  - iii. Provisional date for lighting of the tree 1<sup>st</sup> December. To be installed in the week before.
  - iv. Mulled wine and mince pies to be provided.
  - v. Liaisons with Rev'd Tim to be had in order to confirm arrangements.
- ACTION: Clerk to liaise with Rev'd Tim Rogers and confirm arrangements and then publicise.**
- g) To consider a proposal to join the ESC/Healthwatch Suffolk intervention to support others to connect by designating a village bench as a 'happy to chat' bench: this was discussed. The best location was deemed to be Dr Marriott's bench outside Mulberry Park although it was noted that the bench was still in need to repair. Cllr. Wheeler proposed and Cllr. Thompson seconded that the venture to be joined by the Parish Council, for the Clerk to contact Russell Pearce to see if he was still willing to repair the bench and then make arrangements for said bench to become the village's 'Happy to Chat' bench.
- ACTION: Clerk to contact ESC and Russell Pearce and make the necessary arrangements to join Healthwatch's intervention.**

- h) To consider additional quotations for grass cutting/maintenance of green space by SCL Ltd: Cllr. Thompson outlined the two quotations for work on the cemetery path at £375 + VAT and clearing the area on the A12 around the white posts at £325 + VAT. The quotations were discussed. The Clerk raised the budgeted against actual spend on the village's green spaces and suggested that, given the Council's commitment to improve the green spaces in the village, next year's budget for this area be increased. Cllr Thompson proposed and Cllr Patterson seconded that the quotations be accepted. All presented voted in favour.

**ACTION: Cllr. Thompson to liaise with SCL. Clerk to prepare budget.**

- i) To discuss the condition of the pavements in the village and agree next steps: this was discussed under Item 3.b)iv

- j) To approve a proposal to make a donation of £50 to The British Legion for a wreath for Remembrance Sunday: this was unanimously supported by all present.

**ACTION: As Chair, Cllr. Tower will lay the wreath on 10<sup>th</sup> November at 11am. Clerk to make arrangements to pay the donation.**

## 8. Planning

- a) To consider the following full planning application:

**Planning reference:** DC/24/3782/TCA

**Proposal:** 1no. Ash (T1 on plan) – Fell and 1no. Ash (T2 on plan) - Reduce to 5 metres in height

**Site address:** Cavan Barn , High Street, Yoxford, Saxmundham, Suffolk IP17 3EU

- i. Cllrs. Patterson and Thompson had visited the site address and inspected both trees. They reported that one is dead and the second needs cutting back.
- ii. There followed a general discussion about how best to inform colleagues as fully as possible regarding applications for tree fell/reductions.
- iii. Cllr Thomspn proposed, Cllr. Patterson seconded and all present voted in favour, that the application be supported.
- iv. Cllrs. Patterson and Thompson volunteered to survey trees in all future applications.

**ACTION: Clerk to submit comments via ESC portal and gather clarification from ESC regarding its own processes when examining tree fell/reduction applications.**

## 9. Administration

- a) The insurance renewal premium for Yoxwood of £236.59 was noted.

## 10. Finance

- a) The monthly financial position for November 2024 was noted.

- b) Cllr. Tower had checked the bank reconciliation for Q2, shared that all was in order and proposed that it be approved. Cllr. Patterson seconded. All present voted in favour.

- c) The budget against actual for Q2 was reviewed. The Clerk will be preparing a draft budget for 2025/6 in readiness for Council's consideration.

- d) The receipt of CIL payment 2024 of £3,896.10 was noted. Spending priorities for CIL of £5,293.43 from 2020/21 were discussed. Cllr. Tower asked if CIL could be used to finance Council's riparian responsibility. The Clerk advised that she thought it could but would contact the CIL Team at East Suffolk Council to confirm.

**ACTION:** Clerk to contact ESC's CIL Team for guidance.

- e) Cllr. Tower summarised the underpayment to the Clerk at LC2 Point 24 paid @ £16.16 rather than £17.16 and proposed approval of the salary repayment between 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023 and 30<sup>th</sup> October 2024 of £1 per hour over a total of 881 hours. The proposal was seconded by Cllr. Patterson and all present voted in favour.

- f) Cllr. Tower proposed, Cllr. Roper seconded and all present voted in favour to approve the hourly rate increase (from LC2 Point 24 £17.16 to £17.79) in line with the agreed NJC salary award for 2024-2025 back dated and payable from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024.

- g) Cllr Tower proposed, Cllr. Wheeler seconded and all present voted in favour to authorise the payments listed below and overleaf:

Details	Payee	Amount	VAT	Total	Power
Yoxwood Insurance 2024/5	Zurich Insurance	£211.24	£25.35	£236.59	PHA 1875 s.164
Grass cutting contract: invoice 3992	SCL Landscape Management Ltd.	£590.00	£118.00	£708.00	OSA 1906 s.9
Provision of payroll service April to September 2024	SALC	£45.00	£9.00	£54.00	LGA 1972 s.112
Expense Claim: stationery & sim package	Employee	£36.30	n/a	£36.30	LGA 1972 s.111
Salary November 2024 including additional 9.5 hours for October	Employee	£1019.84	n/a	£1019.84	LGA 1972 s.112
Correction of underpayment of salary 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2023 to 30 <sup>th</sup> October 2024	Employee	£881.00	n/a	£881.00	LGA 1972 s.112
Hourly rate increase in line with NJC salary award	Employee	£258.62	n/a	£258.62	LGA 1972 s.112

## 11. Correspondence

- a) To review correspondence received from 28<sup>th</sup> September to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024 and to take action as appropriate:
- i. The volunteer Editor of the village newsletter, The Yapper had contacted the Council on 5<sup>th</sup> November to share that December's edition would be his final. This was discussed by the Council who voiced gratitude for the years of work that the volunteer had given. Cllr. Tower proposed and Cllr. Patterson seconded the motion that the newsletter be taken on by the Council and circulated by the Clerk as a useful way to reach a greater number of residents. GDPR guidance would need to be complied with.
  - ii. All present were in favour of this but Cllr. Roper shared that she had already asked a member of the public if they'd be interested.
  - iii. It was agreed that this person should be invited to contact the Clerk if they are interested and then arrangements to go from there.

## 12. Questions to the Chair/Items for the Next Agenda:

- a) Cllr. Roper summarised her findings so far regarding funding options which included a NatureFirst/Dementia and Cultural Fund. She will contact the village's History Group as there is some funding that the group may qualify for. She stressed the need for the Funding Working Party to meet and plan strategy.  
**ACTION: Clerk to email participating colleagues, Cllrs. Gardner, Roper, Thompson and Tower, to arrange the first meeting.**

## 13. Next Meeting

- a) The date and time of the next meeting of the Parish Council was confirmed as Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at 7:00 pm.

Meeting closed 8.50pm.

Trudy Charles  
Parish Clerk  
13<sup>th</sup> November 2024

**Appendix A: Correspondence from 28<sup>th</sup> September to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024**

<b>Sending Organisation</b>	<b>Date(s) received</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Date forwarded</b>
<b>Suffolk Association of Local Councils</b>	various	Bulletins, training, AGM info,	various
	01/10/24	Neighbourhood Watch/Police community safety event in the Eastern area: 9th October 3-5pm ( Aldeburgh)	02/10/24
<b>East Suffolk Council</b>	28/10/24	ESC Environmental projects: funding	29/10/24
	25/10/24	Planning consultation: DC/24/3782/TCA	29/10/24
	24/10/24	Cultural/dementia projects: funding	29/10/24
	24/10/24	Consultation re revocation of Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) at Stratford St Andrew	29/10/24
<b>Scottish Power</b>	13/10/24	East Anglia ONE North and TWO Archaeology mitigation: offshore wind farm	30/10/24

Draft

**Appendix B: Monthly Financial Position November 2024****Receipts: UT Current Account - October 2024**

		<b>Oct</b>	<b>Year to date</b>
Cemetery Reservations/Interments	£	-	£ 1,350.00
Transfer from UT Instant Access Savings Account	£	-	£ 5,000.00
Neighbourhood CIL	£	3,896.10	£ 3,896.10
	<b>£</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>£ 6,350.00</b>

**Payments UT Current Account - October 2024**

Grounds Maintenance Contract (incl. VAT)	SCL Landscapes	£	780.00	£	5,091.00
Salary, PAYE & NI	Employee/HMRC	£	881.52	£	7,145.75
Banking Service Charge: Quarter 1 2024/5	Unity Trust Bank	£	-	£	18.00
Audits/Legal: Internal/Ext Audit	PKFLittlejohn	£	252.00	£	580.80
Training	SALC	£	-	£	179.00
Membership/Subscriptions: 365	Microsoft	£	-	£	692.17
Clerk/PC Mobile	Lebara	£	-	£	29.40
MUTs: cash float top up	Volunteer	£	-	£	755.00
MUTs: Lunch	Caterer	£	-	£	699.00
Bench x 1 for Yoxwood	Yoxwood	£	-	£	315.95
Bench x 1 for Teenage Shelter	Teenage Shelter	£	-	£	315.95
Youth Club Funding	Youth Club	£	-	£	1,202.24
Cemetery/YAA Water	Anglian Water	£	76.84	£	154.11
Annual Insurance	CAS Ltd	£	1,937.26	£	1,937.26
	<b>£</b>	<b>3,927.62</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>19,115.63</b>	

**Total Funds: Bank/Cashbook Balances**

Unity Trust Current Account as of 31 October 2024	£	9,615.13
Unity Trust Savings Account as of 31 October 2024	£	39,129.57
United Trust Bank Business Bond as of 15 September 2024	£	7,995.50
United Trust Bank Business Bond as of 21 February 2024	£	5,668.09
	<b>£</b>	<b>62,408.29</b>

**Earmarked Reserves:**

Strickland Manor Hill Play Area	£	1,170.85
Mulberry Park	£	4,425.00
Youth Club	£	2,922.17
ECBS	£	1,125.00
CIL 2020-2021	£	5,293.43
CIL 2021-2022	£	17,090.94
CIL 2022-2023	£	3,732.47
CIL 2023-2024	£	5,293.43
CIL 2024-2025	£	3,896.10
Meet Up Tuesday Grant	£	38.05
Teenagers' Shelter Grant	£	287.59
	<b>£</b>	<b>45,275.03</b>

**General Reserves (=Total Funds – Earmarked Reserves)**      **£ 17,133.26**



## Appendix C: Monthly report from District Councillor Julia Ewart

**"Sizewell C** It seems that following the Development Consent Order being permitted earlier in the year and the Government recently pledging more funding to sustain the opening months of the construction of the nuclear power plant, until full funding is found, then the build is underway.

As one of your Councillors I have been attending as many Sizewell C Forums as possible and would urge all Councillor to remain up to speed with meeting notes whilst taking the opportunity to speak on behalf of our impacted villages whenever possible. A useful link do this being:

[Works tracker, Sizewell C Forums, and contact details » East Suffolk Council](#)

**Progress Of Works** To keep up to speed with really local infrastructure works, a plan is available giving high level timings. It is NOT available as a single document yet, but once it is it will be attached to a subsequent report.

**Forum Meeting Notes** Here are the meetings notes from 9<sup>th</sup> October, 2024 which was held in Darsham [MDSF SZC 16 July 2024](#) as an example of the types of presentation.

**Complaints & Concerns with respect to the Sizewell C Project** It is really important to act and share any concerns, ideally immediately. Matters for consideration can be brought directly to Sizewell C 's attention, and usefully, there is also a direct email address for East Suffolk Council who will help guide the issue, whilst also monitoring the outcome, and seeing that the data/issue of concern is logged or carried out. The addresses are: **Sizewell C email address: [info@sizewellc.com](mailto:info@sizewellc.com) East Suffolk Council: [sizewellc@eastsoffolk.gov.uk](mailto:sizewellc@eastsoffolk.gov.uk)**

**Contact:** If you wish to make contact with the Sizewell C project team, you can reach them by one of the following:

- Freephone: 0800 197 6102 (Weekdays 9am to 5pm).
- Email: [info@sizewellc.co.uk](mailto:info@sizewellc.co.uk) (for general queries).
- Visit: Sizewell C Information Office, 48-50 High Street, Leiston, IP16 4EW (Open for visits without appointment 9:30am – 5pm (weekdays only), closed lunchtimes 12:30pm – 1:30pm).
- Write: FREEPOST SZC (No stamp or further address required).
- Contact page <https://www.szcworkstracker.co.uk/contact/>
- Sizewell C – About Page [Sizewell C nuclear power station | EDF \(edfenergy.com\)](#)
- Sizewell C – FAQ Page [FAQs - Sizewell C](#)

**Waterways & Flooding** As the autumn gets underway most villages have been working on getting ahead of any floods by keeping waterways clean and flowing. Also clerks have tried to shape their emergency plans. Having seen the floods in Spain we really can understand how swiftly one has to work in an emergency. I have had meetings with the Flood Emergency Officers from the County Council, many farmers and riparian owners, home owners, Anglia Water and importantly (possibly the most valuable one for us to progress our water challenges) a meeting with the most informed and understanding Environment Agency Officer. During November I hope to give each village Clerk and Emergency Team Lead the contact details of our localised Environment Agency coordinator so that rather like all of the other services you have from Highways etc. clerks will have easy access to know the likely works and their schedule in the year going forwards.

The meeting with the EA gave me a really good understanding of what they can and cannot do, what they do and do not wish to do, and also, why each Parish should expect to see the EA vans in their village and when. What progress is this?

We did have a conversation about key challenges in Yoxford, where the water goes under the new roundabout, as such and then about what is going on up in Huntingfield and Heveningham where the Blyth leads onto Walpole. The EA are going to support Huntingfield with a project manager to look at the shuttering that is required on the banking, whilst discussing the licence issues for the village being 'as one', just as the EA understand that there is no room to not get the Yox watercourse development right from their side, when some much value is being spent on the new Sizewell C roundabout. I will continue to work on each aspect of this detailed and specific work.

**'Cake Off'** A cheery reminder to each Parish Council, the Clerks, and the village Councillors, who give so generously of their time, there will be a special 'Cake Off' event to say a big thank you for everyone's hard work in the community whilst gathering to share views and ideas, on **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January 3.30-5.30pm at the Huntingfield Hub**, where Councillors from the same localised Yoxford and Kelsale ward parish group/Community Partnership will be able to meet each other whilst enjoying tea with special guests such as the Twenty is Plenty crew and environmental groups who wish to share the occasion. If your village wishes (for fun) to enter a cake into the 'Cake Off' (by bringing it ready made, of course!) it will be greatly received!

**Finally** As we go into the festive season may I wish everyone good luck with their creative events in the halls and meeting rooms. They are going to make a fabulous addition to planning over the run up to Christmas. "