

STOW BUGLE

THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE RESIDENTS OF STOW PARISH

Stow, Normanby by Stow, Coates by Stow, and the surrounding rural area.

STOW PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Welcome to the Summer 2026 edition of the Bugle, the Stow Parish Council online newsletter for the residents of Stow civil parish.

Your Stow Parish Councillors

Cllr Jonathan (Jonty) Waudby – CHAIR
 Cllr Rebecca Arden – VICE CHAIR
 Cllr Keith Eden
 Cllr Chris Turner
 Cllr Charles Hewitt
 Cllr John Martinson
 Cllr Clare Booth
 Nicola Culliford – CLERK

We thought residents might like to see the annual report from Stow Parish Council's Chair shared at our recent Annual Parish Meeting on 7th May.

For Parish Council enquiries please contact stowparishclerk@gmail.com

Chair's Annual Report 2026

Stow Parish Council has spent 2025–26 securing the longterm future of our community assets, with a particular focus on progressing the formal registration of the Parish Field with HM Land Registry, to ensure it is secure and safe for residents in the years to come. Work this year has advanced the paperwork needed to protect the field for community use, and we will keep residents updated as registration completes

Alongside land registration, the council has concentrated on financial sustainability. We have tightened budget monitoring, explored grant opportunities, and begun planning modest, community friendly income streams so we can maintain green spaces and without placing undue pressure on the precept. This is particularly important for the upkeep and maintenance of areas such as the play park, which is a central resource and space for residents and visitors alike.

The council's work depends on people. If you are a new resident or have lived here for many years, please consider stepping forward to help — even a short commitment or occasional support for a project makes a real difference. Fresh volunteers and councillors spread the workload and bring new ideas that benefit everyone.

Finally, on behalf of the council I would like to express our sincere thanks to all the volunteers who give so much time and energy to make Stow a wonderful place to live. Your contributions are what keep our village thriving.
 Cllr Jonathan Waudby

Stow Parish Council Future Meeting Dates, 7pm The Cross Keys

Thurs 2nd July 2026

Thurs 3rd September 2026

Thurs 5th November 2026

Thurs 7th January 2027

Thurs 4th March 2027

We welcome all residents to join us for the open public session at the start of each meeting

In this edition:

- Stow Parish Council News
- Stow Fun Raisers events
- Community Litter Pick thank you
- Open gardens
- Future events at Stow Minster
- Village clock
- Foster care
- Mobile Library
- Post Office
- Plant pop ups
- Crisis and Resilience Fund – Domestic Oil Support
- WI
- What's On
- Table Top Sale
- Village Hall Kitchen Refurbishment
- Wellbeing walks and Community Café
- Mid-Summer Coffee Afternoon
- History Society
- Jubilee 1977

STOW FUN RAISERS

Fire Up the Pedals & The Grill!

Get ready for a fabulous community day out! Join us for the annual Stow Fun Raisers **Family Bike Ride & BBQ**.

Whether you're a cycling pro, a casual cruiser, or just in it for the burgers, there is something for everyone.

When: Sunday 12th July, Bike Ride 1.00pm BBQ 2.00pm

Where: Bike Ride starts from Cross Keys Beer Garden

The Ride: A scenic, family-friendly route perfect for all ages and skill levels.

The Fun: Stick around after the ride for a sizzling BBQ, Tombola, cake stall and activities for the kids!

Dust off those helmets, bring your appetite, and let's make some memories. See you there!

If anyone can make any donations to the cake stall and the tombola please let us know!

We are looking for **local people to knit and crochet poppies for a Stow village display for remembrance**, Stow Fun Raisers will provide the wool/yarn. We just need lots of knitters and crocheters as we will need A LOT!! Join us for a **Crochet Night 2nd July** at the Cross Keys. Time to be confirmed.

Community Litter Pick – 19th April

Posted on Facebook:

“What a great community event this afternoon. Thank you to all involved - litter picking, driving the van, providing cakes, making drinks...

The roads in the village and all the verges look great.. and 20 locals enjoyed exercise and catch ups & met new people before a very sociable cuppa & cake. WLDC will collect the rubbish bags and litter picking equipment next week.”



A big thank you to all those who gave (and continue to give) their time to keep the village and surrounding area clear of litter.

Sunday 5th July - 11am to 4pm - Open Gardens on our doorstep

As part of the National Garden Scheme (which allows access to exceptional private gardens and raises money for nursing and health charities through admissions and teas/ cakes) two local gardens will be welcoming visitors on Sunday July 5th between 11am and 4pm.

The first is **Ivy Cottage**, off Stow Road on the little road/ layby behind the land locally known as Capp Island. What3words engage.tycoons.refrained.

Over the past 3 years, local gardening writer and broadcaster, RHS judge, creator of the Pots & Trowels YouTube podcast - Martin Fish - and his wife Jill, have redesigned and planted the 0.3 acre garden which, in addition to mature trees, features a summerhouse, patio and mixed borders with a selection of trees, shrubs, roses and perennials giving all year round interest. You will also find a large greenhouse with edible crops, a display of ornamental plants, a productive kitchen garden featuring raised vegetable beds, herbs and trained fruit.

The second is just over the B1241 at **Mere House**.

What3words roadblock.validated.obliging

The 1.5 acres of established garden (first planted in 1975, redesigned in 1996 and 2011, and renewed over the last year) features a cutting garden, pleached hedges, a vegetable garden and orchard while the owner Alice Gray's work continues, maintaining 2 ponds, planting a long herbaceous border and creating a new border for drier conditions.

Admission to both gardens combined is £10 for adults, children free, and includes tea or coffee and cake.

Refreshments will be served at Mere House.

There will also be a plant stall at Ivy Cottage.

Cashless payments are available, and both gardens are wheelchair accessible.

Parking for both gardens is at Mere House (via the business drive which is the Stow/ North side of the house drive). There is very limited blue badge parking available at Ivy Cottage.

You are encouraged to make the most of this opportunity to look at these fabulous local gardens, meet the owners and ask questions.



Future Events at Stow Minster

Visit our events page on our website stowminster.co.uk

Saturday 13th June 2026 4.00pm Lecture by Dr Joanne Porter, Collections Manager with the Lincolnshire Archives on our Viking Heritage. Free admission. Donations in aid of Stow Church Restoration Trust

Stow Minster Lecture
Pagan, Pannies and Power: evidence of the Viking Great Army
 Dr Joanne Porter, Research Fellow, University of East Anglia
Saturday 13th June 2026
 4pm start, followed by refreshments

Stow Minster: a church of huge archaeological, historical and spiritual significance, near Lincoln.

In the lecture setting of Stow Minster, Dr Joanne Porter will share her research and insights into our Viking history. Afterwards, join us for refreshments, see our Viking graffiti, and enjoy an insight into the history of Stow Minster. We have tables open on the program with research setting up a Friends of Stow Minster as we search for our manilla. For parking on the day, look out for the signs and our manilla. To register your interest, and ask any questions, please email Revd.Jane.Foster-Smith@lincoln.anglican.org. If you'd like to make a day of your visit to Stow, we can recommend the pub opposite the Minster, the Cross Keys, for lunch or evening meal (bring your own parking for Stow) or a wonderful full evening meal at the Stow Minster Inn. Carers and anyone with an outdoor space for picnic areas and worth a visit for its medieval food screen and peaceful setting.

Ecumenical Quiet Day
In the footsteps of St. James
 at
Stow Minster
 with
 Canon Dr Ian Stockton & Fr Alex Adkins
18th July 2026, 10-3.30pm

Road side parking available.
 Hot drinks provided. Please bring a packed lunch.
 A suggested £10 donation towards the costs of Stow Minster will be greatly appreciated.

For booking and information about parking and other practicalities, contact the Revd Jane Foster-Smith by email: Jane.Foster-Smith@lincoln.anglican.org

Saturday 11th July 2026 7.30pm Concert by ANON performing "Vespers". ANON specialises in reviving and performing music where the composer has been lost to time, was deliberately erased or chose to remain anonymous because some aspect of their identity was at odds with society in which they lived. In many cases, we are probably the first people to sing this music in centuries. They have given several recitals in the Chapter House at Lincoln Cathedral and, over the summer, presented a full evening launch concert in the Cathedral Nave with music themed around the service of vespers, including works from the Vatican Apostolic Library and the Carlo G Manuscript. Ticketing details to be available on our website.

Saturday 18th July 2026 10.00am - 3.30pm Ecumenical Quiet Day led by Canon Ian Stockton and Father Alex Adkins. Suggested £10 donation. To reserve a place contact Revd. Jane Foster-Smith at Jane.Foster-Smith@lincoln.anglican.org

Sunday 26th July 2026 6.00pm Sung Compline - with George Haylock, Lincoln Cathedral Choral Scholar and friends. Free admission, retiring collection.

Sunday 2nd August 2026 3.00pm Organ recital by Sean Maxwell, an American organist based in Austria and Portugal and titular organist at the Benedictine Monastery São Bento da Vitória in Porto. Free admission, retiring collection.

Village clock

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the repair of the striking mechanism. As you can hear (hopefully!) the strike is working well. Chris Turner.

Foster Care

Caroline Leak from Willingham is giving a talk on Foster Care in Lincolnshire at the Winter Warm Space at Sturton Village Hall on Monday, June 29th 12pm onwards.

Mobile library

1-1.45pm Ingham Road, Stow on the following dates: 3rd June, 1st & 29th July, 26th August, 23rd Sept., 21st Oct., 18th Nov., & 16th Dec

POST OFFICE

The Post Office is now in a mobile unit, which will be parked in or near the Cross Keys car park. Opening hours are now two sessions a week. The Post Office will be at the Cross Keys:
Tuesday 9-10.30am *(Sturton 10.45 – 12.15 and Torksey 1-1.45pm)
Thursday 3 – 4.45pm (11.30 – 12.15pm Torksey and 1-2.45 at Sturton).
 * in Sturton it is parked near the Village Hall and in Torksey in the forecourt of The Elms.

Sturton Plants & More pop up stalls at the Cross Keys

On the 4th Friday of each month the very popular local plant suppliers Sturton Plants and More will be bringing a pop up stall to the Cross Keys Car Park for you to choose from their large range of Lincolnshire grown garden plants including some veg plants, herbs, alpines, herbaceous perennials and other plants depending on the season. See you there on 26th June, 24th July, 28th August and 25th September between 10am and 2pm

Lincolnshire Community Foundation have recently launched the Crisis & Resilience Fund – Domestic Oil Support, part of a UK Government initiative delivered locally by Lincolnshire County Council. The fund offers eligible households a one-off £300 voucher to help with heating oil costs, with over 5,000 households across Lincolnshire expected to benefit.

To find out more including eligibility criteria visit www.lincolnshirecrf.co.uk/crf
 Call 01529 572 575 or email crf@lincolnshirecrf.co.uk





Sturton Swans.

Another month has flown by, Spring appears to have sprung at last so fingers crossed we can all get out in the garden a bit more. Our May meeting was a talk by Keith Appleyard about Bletchley Park, we would like to thank him and also all the staff from the war years who did so much to help end the war. It was lovely to see so many guests present. Next month we will be line dancing..well some of us will, the rest will be watching and enjoying the entertainment!! July is our party month.. BBQ or Garden Party? The National AGM is a zoom meeting this year, you could attend a screening at Market Rasen in June if you were interested. Contact a committee member for info. We are always more than happy to welcome new members, either just come along to a meeting or contact our secretary... Maria Scott on 0791461675. We meet in Sturton village hall on the second Tuesday of the month 7 for 730pm our next one is 9th June. We also have an informal coffee morning first Friday of the month at The X Keys in Stow. 10-12am just drop in for a coffee/tea a chat and a catch up with friends.

STURTON BY STOW VILLAGE HALL
Table Top Sale & Coffee Morning
Saturday 2nd May
10am – 11.45am

Call in for a chat, cuppa and bacon roll. Look through the books, bric a brac etc from the table top sales. Free entry & free cash prize draw – minimum £20.

Books taking up too much space. Bring them along on the 1st Saturday of the month, good quality paperback books welcome.

Whether emptying your shed or garage, had a winter coat out, been busy crafting, selling or donating, why not have a sale. No charge this month. To book a stall contact: johnmagg@sturtonvillagehall.com or 01454 345564
 Facebook: SturtonByStow Village Hall www.sturtonbystowvillagehall.co.uk

STURTON BY STOW VILLAGE HALL
Kitchen Refurbishment

This project was funded by FCC Communities Foundation.

The kitchen was completed in February and the official opening by Linda Maltby, Sturton Parish Councillor and Brian Cook, FCC Chairman took place at the Garden Centre on the 1st June.

Those who have used it are delighted with the improvements as the upgrade had been needed for a long time and with the funding from the FCC Communities Foundation it has truly been a gift. It will make a huge difference to the users of the village hall as well as bringing a new lease of life to the building.

We were delighted to have the funds available from FCC Communities Foundation to re-start the kitchen. For now anyone hiring the hall will very much still have to pay for the kitchen.

Chair of Sturton by Stow Village Hall Committee

FCC Communities Foundation is a not-for-profit business that awards grants for community projects through its Small Communities Fund.
 www.fccommunitiesfoundation.co.uk
 info@fccommunitiesfoundation.co.uk
 01827 777766

Facebook: Sturton-by-Stow Village Hall www.sturtonbystowvillagehall.co.uk

Well being walks and the cafe until end of June will be:

- Monday 1st June
- Monday 15th June
- Monday 29th June

Walk at 11, from Sturton by Stow Village Hall, Community Café 12 - 2 pm in the Village Hall.

MID-SUMMER COFFEE AFTERNOON
 2-4PM SATURDAY 27TH JUNE
 Refreshments, Bric-a-Brac, Cake Stall, Raffle.
 All proceeds to Christian Aid.

WHAT'S ON

JUNE

- 1st Wellbeing walk 11-12 VH followed by 12-2pm Sturton VH
- 3rd Mobile Library 1-1.45pm Ingham Road
- 5th WI coffee morning. 10 -12 Cross Keys
- 6th Sturton by Stow Table top sale. VH 10 -12
- 9th WI 7 for 7.30pm VH
- 13th Breakfast Club. Cross Keys. 9.30am NB note date
4pm Our Viking Heritage. Stow Minster
- 15^h Wellbeing walk 11-12 VH followed by 12-2pm Sturton VH
- 17th History Society, 7.30pm VH
- 21st Café Church. 3.15 - 4.30pm VH
- 24th Pop up plants 10-2 Cross Keys
- 27th Mid-Summer Coffee Afternoon. In aid of Christian Aid. VH. 2-4pm
- 29th Wellbeing walk 11-12 VH followed by café 12-2 & 12 Foster Care talk. Sturton VH

JULY

- 1st Mobile library 1-1.45pm Ingham Road.
- 2nd Stow Parish Council 7pm The Cross Keys
SFR Crochet Night. The Cross Keys. Time tbc.
- 3rd WI coffee morning. 10 -12. Cross Keys.
- 4th Breakfast Club. 9.30am Cross Keys.
- 4^h Sturton by Stow Table top sale. VH 10-12
- 5th Open Gardens at Ivy Cottage and The Mere 11 - 4pm
- 11th Concert, Stow Minster 7.30pm
- 12th Village bike ride, BBQ and Family Fun Day. Stow Fun Raisers.
Last day for items for the next edition of the Bugle
- 14th WI. 7 for 7.30pm. Sturton VH
- 15th History Society, 7.30pm. VH.
- 18th Ecumenical Quiet Day, Stow Minster 10-3.30pm
- 19th Café Church. VH. 4pm
- 24th Pop up plants 10-2 Cross Keys
- 26th Sung Compline, Stow Minster 6pm
- 29th Mobile library 1-1.45pm Ingham Road.

Dates for the diary;

- 2nd August Organ Recital. Stow Minster 3pm.
- 19th August History Society, VH. 7.30pm.

STURTON AND STOW HISTORY SOCIETY

- 17th June- Stories of the Siege by Nigel Amos
- 15th July - Dangerous Women of Lincolnshire by Adrian Gray
- 19th August- William Marwood: cobbler, preacher, hangman by Adam Cartwright

Meetings in Sturton Village Hall @ 7.30pm.
 Admission £2. Tea/Coffee/Biscuits and Raffle.

June 1977 - Queen Elizabeth II's Silver Jubilee

This photograph appears on page 59 of the book 'West Lindsey Yesterday 1880 - 1980'



by Stewart E. Squires ISBN 0 9500024 6 1

The photograph backdrop is the Sturton-by-Stow secondary school building. (*this building today is the modern primary school*).

The children attended a primary school, at that time located on the other side of school lane in the old Victorian school building.

They had fancy dress and bicycle decorating competitions, bicycles were decorated in red, white and blue crepe paper. Wider celebrations for everyone took place in the surrounding school playing fields.

Sturton & Stow History Society