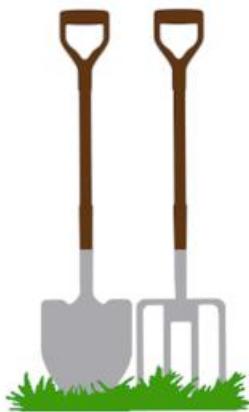


# Hepworth Herald

Issue 50 ~ December 2025



POTTER'S  
ALL SEASONS GARDEN SERVICES



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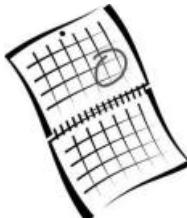
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# What's On?

This is what we know about at the moment. Please share any other events you have planned, or that you hear about. Send them to [hepworthherald@gmail.com](mailto:hepworthherald@gmail.com)

<b>Hepworth Art Group</b>	Every Mon @1000-1300 » Hepworth Pavilion
<b>Village Voices</b>	Every Mon @1430 » Hepworth Pavilion. p14
<b>Hepworth Coffee Morning</b>	1st & 3rd Thu @1030 » Hep. Pavilion. p7
<b>Christmas Lunch</b>	2nd December@1230 - 1530. Hep. Pavilion
<b>Suffolk Mobile Library</b>	4th December@1545 - 1600 » See p4
<b>Holy Communion</b>	7th December@0930 » St Peters.
<b>Carol Service</b>	12th December@1900 » St Peters. See p16
<b>Holy Communion</b>	4th January@0930 » St Peters
<b>Parish Council Meeting</b>	15th January@1930 » Hepworth Pavilion
<b>Suffolk Mobile Library</b>	29th January@1545 - 1600 » See p4
<b>Village Service</b>	1st February@0930 » St Peters

Please see p14 for a list of all the Christmas Services around the Benefice.

## Events in Hepworth?

Many village events are supported by **Hepworth2Enjoy**. This is an engaged, friendly collective of Hepworth villagers who come together to put on village events and to help others put on village events, providing people-power, experience, and bags of enthusiasm! We now have a small budget to help. Please contact Clare (250 660)



## Do you have a new neighbour?

The Parish Council has prepared a Welcome Pack for people new to the village.

It can be found on the Village Website at  
<http://hepworthvillage.co.uk>

Many thanks to our printers, The Community Workshop, Bury St Edmunds. 01284 702937

# SUFFOLK LIBRARIES

Did you know about the Suffolk Mobile Library Service?  
It visits Hepworth every 4 weeks on a Thursday, and stops at:

Half Moon, The Street between 1545 and 1600

The coming village visits will be on

- 4<sup>th</sup> December
- 29<sup>th</sup> January

Do stop in, say hello, and  
borrow a book or two!



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## From the Rectory

Dear Friends & Neighbours,

December is here — the season of twinkly lights, carols, mince pies and (if we're lucky) a bit of sparkly frost too! In amidst the busyness and bustle, it's good to pause and remember that the heart of Christmas... the reason we celebrate is because of the most wonderful gift ever given: the gift of Jesus.



God's gift to us wasn't wrapped in shiny paper or tied with ribbon, but laid in a manger. In Jesus, God stepped right into our world... into our mess and muddle... to show us His love and to invite us to know Him personally. That's what Christmas is really all about: the invitation to draw close to the One who loves us and came close to us.

Every year there's a Christmas advert that tugs at our heartstrings, and this year's John Lewis one does just that. It tells the story of a dad who's given a vinyl record by his son, it's a gift that takes him back to treasured old memories and reconnects them in the present. It's a lovely reminder that the best gifts aren't the expensive ones, the best gifts are the ones that bring people closer together. And that's exactly what God did at Christmas... He gave us the gift that brings us back to Him.

As we gather for our Christingle Services and our Carol Services around the villages ... let's make that a time for reconnecting with the true spirit of Christmas and experience God's love and hope and peace and joy in our lives as we allow His most wonderful gift Jesus a place in our hearts.

And let's share that love too. Maybe you could telephone someone you've not seen for a while or perhaps invite someone to share a cup of tea with you and reconnect. Or maybe you can invite a friend or a neighbour to come along to a Carol Service with you. There are Carol Services and Christingle Services in all 8 of our villages. We'd love to see you and to enjoy some mulled wine and mince pies after the services with you. Why not come along?

So, in the busyness of this wonderful season, I hope that each one of us will find time to reconnect with the true meaning of Christmas and experience the gift of Jesus' love which is the best gift any one of us will ever know.

Wishing you and all those you love a blessed and joyful Christmas.

Love Cathy x



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# Thursday Halloween Club

The Thursday morning coffee group enjoyed a Halloween themed event. This included a raffle, decorations, delicious food, lots of chatter and endless amounts of coffee and tea! We are a very relaxed, informal group and enjoy meeting new people.



## Hepworth coffee morning

On the first and third Thursday of each month at 1030 -1200.

Come and join us for a coffee and chat, meet new people and old friends.

Just £4 a session.



# Village Thank You!

הודות Dankie Gracias شکر Спасибо Merci Takk كۆسۈنۈڭ Terima kasih Grazie Dziękujemy Dékojame ଧାକୁଜେମେ Vielen Dank Paldies କିଟୋସ Tାନମେ ତୈଦ୍ ଧାକୁଜେମେ 谢謝 Kiitos Teşekkür Ederiz 감사합니다 Σας Ευχαριστούμε ବାବକମ୍ Bedankt Děkujeme vám ありがとうございます Tack

1. Thank you to Anne and Tama for their amazing service to the village by providing us with coffee mornings twice a month. You put so much care and thought into these Thursdays. Everyone who attends really enjoys them.

2. Thank you to the person who mows the footpath from the Street to Clay Lane.

3. Thank you to Simon for volunteering his free time to tidy and manage to undergrowth and hedging surrounding the Recreation hall.

To all of you, your service is much appreciated.

## Letter to the editor



### Churches Ride and Stride

Another lovely day cycling round the local churches on 13th September 2025. The weather was perfect and it's always so lovely meeting everyone en route. Many thanks to the cyclists and volunteers manning the church.

We didn't see as many cyclists as other years so maybe a date to put in your diary now. Its a great way to visit the local area or you could head into a town and explore churches there. Whatever you choose, it's a good way to raise money for these fabulous buildings.

This year I sent £180 to the Suffolk Historic Churches trust, which means £90 will be coming to St Peter's.

I'm sorry that many of you had a very quiet hour or two in the church. I appreciate your time and hope that next year there will be more cyclists out and about.

Looking forward to it already!

Heather Shelley

# Speed Indicator Devices



## Device No. 1 at A143 end of The Street

62 days from 01/09/2025 to 01/11/2025.

Vehicles **arriving** into village from the A143:

Total number of vehicles:- **26264**

Average speed for ALL vehicles:- **28.7mph**

Total number of vehicle speeds above 30 mph:- **7014 (26.7%)**

No. of incidents 40mph and above:- **291** 50mph and above:- **10**

Highest speed recorded:- **61mph**

Vehicles **leaving** the village toward the A143:

Total number of vehicles:- **18033**

Average speed for ALL vehicles:- **29.8mph**

Total number of vehicle speeds above 30 mph:- **7504 (41.61%)**

No. of incidents 40mph and above:- **392** 50mph and above:- **7**

Highest speed recorded:- **66mph**

## Device No. 2 at Barningham end of The Street

62 days from 07/09/2025 to 01/11/2025.

Vehicles **arriving** into village from Barningham:

Total number of vehicles:- **27511**

Average speed for ALL vehicles:- **26.2mph**

Total number of vehicle speeds above 30 mph:- **3786 (13.76%)**

No. of incidents 40mph and above:- **102** 50mph and above:- **2**

Highest speed recorded:- **63mph**

Vehicles **leaving** the village toward Barningham:

Total number of vehicles:- **28805**

Average speed for ALL vehicles:- **26.6mph**

Total number of vehicle speeds above 30 mph:- **5033 (17.47%)**

No. of incidents 40mph and above:- **194** 50mph and above:- **5**

Highest speed recorded:- **61mph**

## Speedwatch Along The Street:

For more information about Speedwatch, or to get involved, call Richard on 07979745990



Sep. 2025: 2 sessions 5 vehicles logged

max speed = 39 mph

Oct. 2025: 4 sessions 15 vehicles logged

max speed = 41 mph

# HEPWORTH PARISH COUNCIL - MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

## HEPWORTH PAVILION - THURSDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 2025@1930

PRESENT: Councillor Garry Bloomfield (GB) (Chair), Councillor Nicholas Bennett (NB) (Vice Chair), Councillor Marjorie MacPherson (MM), Councillor Perry Penn (PP), Councillor Louise Robinson (LR), Councillor Hollie Williams (HW)

IN ATTENDANCE: Andy Osman (Parish Clerk) (AO), District Cllr Carol Bull (CB), 3 members of the public

25/92 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

25/93 APOLOGIES: None.

25/94 PUBLIC FORUM: a. New Bus Stop. The need for a new bus stop was queried by members of the public. LR clarified that the new bus stop was required for young people safety reasons, as it would be accessible via footways, and to locate it more centrally in the village. The Chair confirmed that repairs to the existing bus stop had been delayed due to deterioration of the wooden frame around the missing window. The Chair agreed to bring costings to the next meeting for approval to allow this work to be completed.

b. Stables Field. CB confirmed that the retrospective planning application, DC/25/1075/FUL, had been withdrawn and that enforcement action by West Suffolk Council had restarted.

25/95 REPORTS FROM AND QUESTIONS TO DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS: a. County Cllr Update. County Cllr Joanna Spicer was not present at the meeting, and her report had been pre-circulated.

b. District Cllr Update. District Cllr Carol Bull provided the following update: • Jaynic Sign. It was indicated that this sign had planning permission. CB agreed to confirm details. [Clerks Note - DC/22/2191/ADV was submitted in January 2023 for the erection of a non-illuminated sign and Hepworth Parish Council objected to the application. The application remains pending a decision on the West Suffolk Planning portal].

25/96 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING: Minutes of the meetings held on 17 July and 7 August 2025 had been previously circulated and it was resolved that these were an accurate record of the meetings.

25/97 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: No matters arising

25/98 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION: Finance Report. The meeting noted the finance report (current account balance £7,867.37, savings account balance £7,000.00 and the projected outturn at the end of the FY of approx. £3,200 current account and £7,000 savings account). The following payments were agreed: Clerks Salary & Exps £1073.91; Insurance (Gallagher) £453.15; Hepworth Hall Hire £72.00; NB agreed to authorise payments.

25/99 PLANNING MATTERS: a. DC/25/1234/HH. The meeting agreed to support the application.

b. Determination of DC/23/1154/OUT. The meeting noted the update provide by CB which indicated that an extension had been given until the end of September to allow consideration of draft Masterplan information. CB agreed to provide a further update at the end of September for determination timeline of the application.

25/100 HIGHWAYS MATTERS: a. Ditches. A number of potential issues with blocked ditches were discussed. It was agreed that the Chair would map these to allow discussion with County Cllr Spicer at the October Parish Council meeting.

b. Hepworth Pavillion Sign. MM highlight the poor state of the post with the Hepworth

Pavillion sign at the junction with The Street/Church Lane. It was agreed that the Clerk would obtain a cost to replace the post using Parish Council funds for the next meeting.

25/101 CORRESPONDANCE RECEIVED: a. West Suffolk Council Rest Centre Training. The meeting noted the offer of rest centre training. It was agreed that NB would forward the current Hepworth Pavilion Rest Centre Plan to West Suffolk Council emergency planners to clarify whether any revision was required.

b. Suffolk County Council Definitive Map. The definitive map for Hepworth was noted.

25/102 QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN: a. Comments on Planning Applications. NB suggested that the Parish Council may wish to add contextual background to comments on planning application where these might be contrary to West Suffolk Council policies. The meeting agreed to adopt this approach.

b. Barningham Traffic Survey. The meeting was minded to support the addition of HGVs to the planned traffic survey in conjunction with funding from County Cllr Spicer.

c. Speed Indicator Device (SID) Location. The rationale behind the positioning of the SID at the northern end of The Street was queried. It was agreed that the Clerk would investigate to see if any information was held.

25/103 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: It was noted that the date of the next Parish Council meeting had been set for Thursday 16 October 2025 at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.28 pm.

Andy Osman - Parish Clerk

1 October 2025

## **HEPWORTH PARISH COUNCIL - MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

### **HEPWORTH PAVILION - THURSDAY 16 OCTOBER 2025@1930**

PRESENT: Councillor Garry Bloomfield (GB) (Chair), Councillor Nicholas Bennett (NB) (Vice Chair), Councillor Marjorie MacPherson (MM), Councillor Perry Penn (PP), Councillor Louise Robinson (LR), Councillor Hollie Williams (HW)

IN ATTENDANCE: Andy Osman (Parish Clerk) (AO), County Cllr Joanna Spicer (JS), District Cllr Carol Bull (CB)

25/104 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

25/105 APOLOGIES: None.

25/106 PUBLIC FORUM: None.

25/107 REPORTS FROM AND QUESTIONS TO DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS: a.

County Cllr Update. County Cllr Joanna Spicer provide the following update: • Church Lane/The Street Signpost. The meeting noted that Suffolk Highways had been asked to provide a quote to reset the signpost that was falling into the ditch.

• Buses. A publicity campaign was planned for the new year to promote use of buses serving local communities. [Clerk Note: Suffolk County Council Passenger Transport have since confirmed that the order for the base of the new bus shelter has been placed].

• Barningham Traffic Survey. Barningham Parish Council have ordered a traffic survey for the period 6 to 21 November. The meeting highlighted a potential clash with other roadworks due in the area and JS agreed to pass this onto Barningham Parish Council in case the traffic survey needs to be postponed. It was agreed to support the survey with a £100 grant.

- Ditch Clearance. The meeting noted that an update from County Farms was still awaited. It was agreed that the Chair would report the culvert under the road by the village sign as needing clearing on the Highways Reporting Tool.

b. District Cllr Update. District Cllr Carol Bull provided the following update:

- Stables Field. CB confirmed that enforcement action was continuing following the withdrawal of a retrospective planning application.

- Clarkes Sign. HW enquired when the Clarkes sign was to be removed following the dismissal of the planning appeal in late August. CB agreed to follow this up with West Suffolk Council planning staff.

- Shepherds Grove Masterplan. The meeting noted that the draft Shepherds Grove Masterplan was due to be resolved by West Suffolk Council Cabinet on 4 November; a full planning application was likely to follow.

County Cllr Spicer and District Cllr Bull left the meeting at 8.17pm

25/108 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING: Minutes of the meetings held on 25

September 2025 had been previously circulated and it was resolved that these were an accurate record of the meetings. 25/109 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: a.

Blocked Ditches. This was covered in Minute 25/107.

- b. Contribution to Barningham Traffic Survey. This was covered in Minute 25/107.

- c. Bus Stop Repairs. The Chair indicated that a local builder had offered to finish the repairs to the existing buses stop as a good will gesture.

- d. Jaynic Sign. The Clerk agreed to follow up the unauthorised Jaynic sign with CB.

[Clerks Note: CB subsequently confirmed that this sign does not have planning permission and enforcement action would now be started].

25/110 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION: a. Finance Report. The meeting noted the finance report (current account balance £6,291.54, savings account balance £7,000.00 and the projected outturn at the end of the FY of approx. £4,000 current account and £7,000 savings account). The following payments were agreed: SALC Payroll Service £22.80 LR agreed to authorise payments.

b. Changes to Annual Governance IT Assurance. The meeting noted the briefing note by the Clerk on future changes to assuring IT governance that had been previously circulated. It was agreed that the Clerk would implement the following changes by 1 April 2026:

- New 'gov.uk' email for the Clerk (parishclerk@hepworth-pc.gov.uk).
- New 'gov.uk' domain for the Parish Council information (hepworth-pc.gov.uk).
- New IT policy.

It was agreed to fund the in-year change cost of £436.50 from existing budget and future years costs of £115 were noted. 25/111 PLANNING MATTERS: None.

25/112 HIGHWAYS MATTERS: None.

25/113 CORRESPONDANCE RECEIVED: a. West Suffolk Council Community Governance Review. The meeting noted West Suffolk Council Community Governance review activity.

25/114 QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN: None.

25/115 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: It was noted that the date of the next Parish Council meeting had been set for Thursday 20 November 2025 at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.35 pm.

Andy Osman - Parish Clerk

23 October 2025

## Hepworth Weather (as measured on The Street)

September 2025:	Max. Temp:	26.6°C	19th
	Min. Temp:	3.2°C	23rd
	Total Rainfall:	49.1mm	
	Wettest Day:	11.4mm	14th
October 2025:	Max. Temp:	21.6°C	6th
	Min Temp:	2.5°C	26th
	Total Precipitation:	52.3mm	
	Wettest Day:	17.2mm	22nd

**September 2025:** September was rather dry with average temperatures. No ground or air frost. 15th - Very gusty wind all day with a maximum gust of 55 mph in the morning.

**October 2025:** October was a dull, mild month with rainfall slightly below average. 3rd/4th - a wind gust of 55 mph was recorded in association with Storm Amy. No ground or air frost during the month.

Kindly provided by Richard Hinton. See the latest weather and historical Hepworth weather data at <http://j.mp/Hepworthws>

### Planning Matters Discussed at Parish Council

DC/25/1075/FUL - Land Adjacent To Duke Of Marlborough Bury Road  
Hepworth Suffolk

DC/22/2191/ADV - Land At Shepherds Grove Industrial Estate,  
East Sumner Road Hepworth Suffolk

DC/25/1234/HH - Church Close, Hepworth

DC/23/1154/OUT- Shepherds Grove Industrial Estate, East Sumner Road

# Village Voices

## NEW WINTER TIMES FOR VILLAGE VOICES

During the winter months the Village Voices will meet at the Pavilion from 1430 – 1530 until 29th March 2026 and the start of British Summer Time.

An open invitation to join Village Voices our welcoming group of local people from Hepworth and surrounding villages who enjoy singing and/or playing an instrument as an accompaniment.

No auditions required. All abilities welcome.

**Monday afternoons at the Hepworth Pavilion.  
1430 until 1530**

£2.00

Singing everything from ABBA to Led Zeppelin.

## Christmas Services around the Benefice

Date	Church	Time	Service
Sunday, 7th December	Market Weston	1530	Christingle
Friday, 12th December	Hepworth	1900	Carol Service
Sunday, 14th December	Hinderclay	1630	Carol Service
	Stanton	1600	Christingle & Carols
Tuesday 16th December	Barningham	1900	Carol Service
Friday, 19th December	Coney Weston	1900	Carols by Candle Light
Sunday, 21st December	Thelnetham	1500	Carol Service
	Hopton	1830	Carol Service
Christmas Eve	Hopton	1630	Crib Service
	Market Weston	1900	Carol Service
	Stanton	2315	Midnight Communion
Christmas Day	Barningham	1000	Benefice Family Communion

# Hepworth2Enjoy Fundraising Autumn Fair



The H2E team would like to thank all those involved in contributing to our successful Autumn Fair on Sunday October 26th – both in terms of time, monies raised through participating stalls and purchases made. Above all we were pleased to see some of our Hepworth villagers popping in to support us and, of course, those from outside the village who came.

Monies raised from this event were in aid of the over 65s village Christmas meal and the church roof fund. There were donated home-made cakes for sale, afternoon tea/coffee with home-made scones, jam and cream served by Tama and Ann. There were craft stalls offering hand-made cards, crochet, quilting, glassware and a lady selling Avon products and running a tombola. There were honey sales from 2 Hepworth beekeepers and a range of preserves of the season. We are grateful to all those who donated prizes for our raffle.

We would also like to thank those children and adults who presented their carved and decorated pumpkins for our competition and ran the games - especially the Harvey grandchildren who organised selling raffle tickets, guess the number of sweets in the jar, shove ha'penny challenge (2025 updated to 2p) and pin the tail on the donkey. The pumpkins were expertly judged by Pat Ling who kindly gave up her time to do this. We were touched by the comments from one of the entrants who had done the entry with her 91 year old father. The entry far right in the picture. An inclusive Autumn Fair for all ages.

Once again thank you to all those who came to support us and please look out for coming events. If you would like to help us in any small way do get in touch.

Hepworth 2 Enjoy Team

# The Hepworth Roof Appeal

There is now a small team working to raise the funds for the retiling of the roof. The paperwork is underway, more letters written, lists of funding bodies have been made and forms are being filled in. We are considering using social media or Just Giving to get our message to a wider audience but none of us have the skills. If you are able to help us please get in touch.

Very heartfelt thanks to Hepworth2Enjoy who donated £200 from their Autumn Fair and to The Art Club for their donation after the Art show. Thanks to all those who visited those events too.

Since water is already coming in to the church through the roof, this is an urgent project before more damage is done.

## Have your Say

Government Consultation on Proposals for Local Government Reorganisation in Norfolk and Suffolk.

<https://bit.ly/SuffolkReorg>

## Carol Service

Come and join us for Carols and Mulled Wine on Friday 12th November at 7pm. The Benefice Choir will be leading the singing this year.

A chance to get in the Christmas spirit with a traditional evening.



## STANTON WI CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

All Saints Church, Stanton

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December 10am-4.30pm  
Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December 12noon-4pm

Followed by The Christingle Service  
at 4pm on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December



Refreshments  
available, raffle  
draw.

Proceeds to All  
Saints Church,  
Stanton WI and  
local Charities



# TREECYCLING 2026

7<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> January

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or 07763 720 591

**Deadline for all copy (contents and adverts) for the February 2026 edition of the Hepworth Herald is 19th January 2026. Please email all requests to [hepworthherald@gmail.com](mailto:hepworthherald@gmail.com)**

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Back Cover		£90 (£33)
Centre Spread	£90 (£33)	£120 (£44)

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