



Walberswick Village News

February 2025 | Issue 339

Walberswick Against LionLink (WALL) Update

We've had a busy 2024 surveying and officially recording wildlife and the footfall along the village paths that will be impacted by the LionLink proposal. Birds, bats and reptiles have been surveyed in the immediate area. **75** locations have been monitored for bats, and **50,000** unique registrations recorded. There were **6** repeat bird surveys of the potential landfall site and cable routes, covering a total of **94** miles and recording **69** species. **20** volunteers have surveying **300** sites over **6** months for reptiles around the landing site.

National Grid/LionLink has been trying to create the impression that its proposed landfall site at Manor Field (G2) is 'south' of the village in an open and scarcely used field. This is false. It is surrounded by a dense network of local and long-distance footpaths and a staggering **48,821** people have used these popular lanes since 24 May 2024.

Walberswick will be independently investigating the geophysical characteristics of the proposed landfall site and cable routes. The ground investigation works, including borehole B on the beach, were not completed last year due to delays caused by our objections. On the advice of Natural England, East Suffolk Council insisted that LionLink minimised the disruption to breeding birds.

We are currently having all our data analysed to present to LionLink at the next planning stage.

A huge thanks to our loyal team of volunteers and for your donations, which have enabled us to buy the specialist kit and get the legal advice to make all this happen.

For more information on all the surveys, please visit the WALL website www.wall-update.org. **David Riches**

Fete work begins

The Fete Committee has assembled. All the same people from last year have happily returned and begun discussing this year's fete. As always, the fete will be supporting the Village Hall and St Andrew's Church and, as established last year, we will also be supporting a third charity. More news on that to come. If you have any thoughts, questions or wish to help out in any way then please feel free to contact Mitchell on 07745 391711. Thank you. **Mitchell Pocock, Fete Chair**

New chair-based Pilates classes

By special request, Coral Stebbings, who already offers Pilates classes in the Village Hall, will be adding a chair-based Pilates class to her Tuesday schedule. The classes will be at 11.45am - 12.15pm as from Tuesday 11 February. £24 for a four week block or £7 each week. Reservations are essential. For more information, contact Coral on 07967 808561. **Editor**

The Real Inspector Hound

Last chance for an evening (or afternoon) of sparkling wit, murder mystery and absurd humour as Walberswick's Players present Tom Stoppard's pretension-pricking, cliché-chaffing farce, *The Real Inspector Hound*. Performances in the Village Hall from Thursday 6 February through to Saturday 8 February 2025 at 7.30pm, with an additional matinee on Sunday 9 February 2025 at 2.30pm. Tickets are on sale from the Tuck Shop (Co-op) in Walberswick, or online at ticketsource.co.uk/walberswick-players. **Rod Lynch**

NOTE

This month's WI meeting will be on the second Thursday of the month, 13 February at 2.30pm and not the usual first Thursday of the month.

Tracey clinches it for Durham

Congratulations to Tracey MacLeod, who provided the winning answer in the closing seconds of the BBC Christmas University Challenge 2024, ensuring a nail-biting victory for Durham University over Queens' College Cambridge. The final of the festive series, featuring celebrated alumni, was closely fought against very strong opponents and was contested right to the last buzzer with a final score of 125 to 120 points. On the path to the final, Durham first beat the University of Warwick (265-35) and then Worcester College Oxford (120-85).

You can watch the final on BBC iPlayer at tinyurl.com/45dyafc3. **Editor**

Millennium memorabilia needed

A reminder that the Walberswick Local History Group is planning an exhibition on 5 & 6 April to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Millennium in the village. It will include the Millennium record of all the houses in the village, the Millennium Breakfast photographs, the Auction of Panels painted by local artists, and more. If you are the owner of any memorabilia, photographs, etc. that you are willing to loan, please contact **Pat Lancaster** at patlancaster@btinternet.com.

The Anchor

♥ Hot Love at The Anchor on 14 February ♥

Disco Divas 6.30pm - 7.30 pm

Curry Night from 5.30pm - please call to book

From 17 February - normal opening hours

Monday - Sunday

info@anchoratwalberswick.com | 01502 722112
www.anchoratwalberswick.com

Walberswick Common Lands Charity

Given that it is mid-winter, the amount of activity across Walberswick Common Lands Charity land is still significant. The reed cutters are in full swing, helping us to maintain an open condition: plenty of reed not impeded by trees or scrub. The foot drains are working well on the wet grassland, enhancing conditions for winter waders, and the RSPB have asked us to monitor Lapwing (Red List species) as the breeding season approaches.

The winter works plan for the Common is almost agreed. It will contain elements to reduce bracken, encourage heather at all life stages, maintain footpaths and a mosaic of gorse, as well as working on the wet fen to cut the reeds, possibly establishing some open water - all creating specific habitats.

Two mature trees have had to be felled so there is work to be done to establish their replacements. Some signage has gone up indicating the King Charles III England Coast Path, including one urging walkers not to trample the vegetation.

Finally, it is the time of year when rubbish can clearly be seen. If you have gloves and/or a bag please do pick some up out of respect for the habitats so many of us enjoy. **Vanessa Tucker, Environmental Stewardship Trustee**



Walberswick Parish Council

Article 4 consultation for Walberswick

The Public Meeting on the Article 4 direction in the Village Hall on 16 January was very well attended. An Article 4 direction means that planning permission is required for certain physical changes to single residential properties that would usually be permitted. A big thank you to all those who came. We received a good quality presentation followed by an extensive question and answer session, with many excellent points being made. The presentation has now been made available and can be viewed at tinyurl.com/4jz4cswz. On the last slide is the email address to which you can send any comments you may have, regardless of whether you attended the meeting itself or not.

Sea Link Consultation

The Parish Council responded on behalf of the village to this particular consultation because it contained an element highly relevant to LionLink (even though they didn't inform us of this). The response was as follows:

"Walberswick Parish Council objects to these latest proposed changes on the following grounds:

1. Our community continues to express the view that Suffolk Coastal and the UK overall will benefit from a strategic, joined up approach by which electricity transmission that brings power generated by offshore wind farms and from European partners would make use of an integrated offshore grid that comes onshore in post-industrialised brownfield sites close to electricity demand. National Grid Ventures (NGV) continues to ignore this solution in favour of industrialising green field sites, including those in Suffolk with nationally and internationally protected designations, thereby causing wholly unnecessary environmental damage and disrupting and destroying elements of the local economy.

2. This set of changes does nothing to alleviate traffic congestion on the B1121, nor the pressure on the natural landscape and the local tourism economy, as has been pointed out repeatedly in earlier consultations. In particular, the proposal continues to ignore the other massive energy infrastructure projects planned in the same area and the resulting unsustainable cumulative impact.

3. From the perspective of Walberswick Parish Council, we are appalled that NGV is seeking to re-introduce the taking of land north of the Sea Link converter station site to provide NGV with the ability for locating a construction compound and a second, separate converter station for the LionLink project. This is not coordination, but simply a doubling of the damage and harm caused by retaining two separate interconnector projects. Moreover, Sea Link should not be allowed to surreptitiously seek 'approval' for LionLink through the Sea Link Development Consent Order. As NGV refuses to coordinate these two projects, then there can be no justification for NGV to seek approval for the taking of land north of proposed Sea Link site for a future LionLink that is not under consideration at this point.

We hope that NGV will take these views seriously and rethink these misguided proposals."

Next Parish Council meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday, 19 February at 7pm in the Heritage Hut and is open to members of the public. Full details will be published on the village website, or for further information contact the Parish Clerk at clerk@walberswick-pc.gov.uk.

R.J.T. SERVICES

Interior & exterior painting

Free estimates

Friendly, reliable and DBS checked

trudgill@gmail.com | 07554 008675

Planning applications

At the time of publication, the following properties were awaiting a decision:

Southwold Harbour, Ferry Road | **Pebbles**, The Lea | **Tower Cottage**, Palmers Lane | **The Beeches**, Millfield Road | **Herons**, Church Field

The latest applications & Advisory Group Reports, can be found on the Walberswick [website](#).

Singers, where are you?

A few years ago we had twelve members of the Walberswick Choir from this village. For various reasons we are now down to six and a half. We are assisted by four extras who travel from Reydon and Blythburgh. We would welcome more singers. We meet for an hour once a week to rehearse and 'perform' one Sunday evening per month. If interested or any questions please email: juliasowerbutts@hotmail.co.uk. **Julia Sowerbutts**

Celebrating volunteers

On Sunday 23 February at 11.15am, St Andrew's Church will be hosting a service celebrating volunteering in the community. All are warmly invited as we say a huge 'thank you' to all those in our village who offer their time and talents in the service of others. There will be tea, coffee and pastries from 10:45am and following the service, a glass of prosecco, soft drinks and nibbles. **Stephanie Ranouf**

INK needs your help

Yes, it is that time again and we, the INKIES, are busy pulling together yet another hugely creative festival, (24-28 April). This year we have a special theme of food poverty, and in fact one of our performance locations or 'pods' is a food bank.

As you may know, a number of people from this village are involved, and there are many opportunities to do so. Our particular ask at this moment is for offers of accommodation, in the run up to and/or during the festival, for actors, directors, backstage team. But you could also consider volunteering (front of house etc.) for the festival itself. Please contact me with any questions karen@inkfestival.org. Thank you and look forward to seeing you at one of the 70 new plays that we are premiering. **Karen Maxwell**



Diary Dates



The Real Inspector Hound

Thursday, 6 February to Saturday, 8 February at 7.30pm and Sunday, 9 February at 2.30pm in the Village Hall

The Walberswick Players perform the Tom Stoppard farce. Tickets at £10 are available online from ticketsource.co.uk/walberswick-players or from the Tuck Shop. **Rod Lynch**

WI monthly meeting

Thursday, 13 February, 2.30pm in the Village Hall

Please note that this month's meeting takes place on the **second Thursday of the month**, 13 February, and not the usual first Thursday. Our speaker this month is Alexander Green who will be telling us how to stay secure in a changing world. **Muriel Wortley**

Showing of the Walberswick Scroll

Sunday, 16 February at 10am, 11am and 12 noon in the Heritage Hut

See the Walberswick houses painted by John Doman Turner in 1931, and hear tales about the village, the artist and how the scroll came about. Showings last approximately 55 minutes. Free, but donations welcome. **John English**

Walberswick Local History Group AGM and talk

Saturday, 15 March, AGM at 6.30pm & talk at 7pm in the Village Hall

Following the AGM, Libby Purves will talk about her childhood growing up in Walberswick. Those wishing to attend should email **Edward Wright** at ewright123@btinternet.com to reserve a place. Please indicate if you wish to bring a guest (guest ticket £5).

A Moment in Time: Millenium exhibition

Saturday & Sunday, 5-6 April, 10am - 4pm in the Heritage Hut

An exhibition to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Millennium in the village organised by the Walberswick Local History Group. If you are lucky enough to own any memorabilia or have photographs of the event and are willing to loan them, please contact **Pat Lancaster** at patlancaster@btinternet.com.

Church Matters

St Andrew's Church Walberswick

Team Rector

Revd Russ Gant

russ.gant@solebayteamministry.co.uk
solebayteamministry.co.uk

February 2025 Services

Sunday, 2 February 11.15am

Sung Eucharist
Joined by Blythburgh

Sunday, 9 February 6pm

Choral Evensong

Sunday, 16 February 11.15am

Sung Eucharist

Sunday, 23 February 11.15am

Family Service
10.45am coffee and pastries

Every Wednesday 10am

Holy Communion
Coffee on first Wednesday

Parish Register

28 December - Burial of Ashes
Wendy Sinclair, Age 92 years

Commemorative Flowers

9 February - Pat Lancaster
for Tony

Community Services

Community Cafe: Wednesday,
19 February, 2pm-4.30pm in the
Village Hall.

Mobile Library: Friday,
28 February 2.15pm-2.45pm,
Village Hall car park.

Norwich Bus: Thursday,
20 February. Please contact
Mandy Erlenbach on 07590
697575 to book a place.

Mobile Post Office: Wednesdays
12 noon to 1pm in the Village Hall
car park.

VISIT THE VILLAGE WEBSITE

walberswick-pc.gov.uk

The next edition of the Village News will be published on 1 March 2025 The copy deadline is noon on 25 February 2025 and submissions should be sent to the editor at walberswicknews@gmail.com.

RICHARD KETT HORTICULTURE

Nursery trained, third generation
Award-winning gardener

07503 048554

MARK BOTWRIGHT'S TREE SERVICES

All aspects of tree surgery at competitive rates
Fully qualified & insured

01502 476334 or 07749 524778

Southwold Carpets, Curtains & Blinds Ltd

*For all Flooring, Curtains, Blinds and Accessories,
Haberdashery, Wool, Home & Giftware, & more*
Visit us at Unit 1, Southwold Business Centre,
St Edmunds Road, Southwold, IP18 6JU

01502 724948 / southwoldcarpets@btconnect.com
www.southwoldcarpets.co.uk

GC WILSON CARPENTRY & CONSTRUCTION

Complete Building Service
*New builds, extensions, conversions
and general maintenance*

Call Gareth: 07717 507412 or 01986 875658

MANTINS SOLICITORS & NOTARIES

*Residential & Commercial Conveyancing
Wills, Probate, Powers of Attorney & Notarial Work*
23a High Street, Southwold, Suffolk IP18 6AD
Tel: 01502 724750 - www.mantins.co.uk

KW CLARKE BUTCHERS

Family butcher and poulterer, general store
Locally produced meat - Emmerdale Red Poll Beef
Bramfield, Halesworth IP19 9JH

01986 784244 - kwclarkesorder@gmail.com

**Alex Godfrey
BICYCLE MECHANIC**

Qualified, insured and mobile
Walberswick, @alexbikemech

07963 390057

EAST COAST LINEN HIRE

Offering high quality linen & soft towels
Laundering service for commercial
& domestic clients

Nicky 07809 771121

hello@eastcoastlinenhire.co.uk

AV-CONSTRUCTION

Specialists in Timber construction

Complete Building Service
www.av-construction.co.uk

info@av-construction.co.uk | 07453 360857

IAN POOLE DECORATING

Painting, Tiling & Wallpapering
Hand-painted kitchens & furniture

Email: decor@ipooledecorator.co.uk
www.ipooledecorator.co.uk | Reliable & fully insured
01502 710257 / 07952 022436

RUTHY'S WAY WINDOW CLEANING

Walberswick, Suffolk

All types of windows professionally cleaned

Call SHANE: 01502 722595 or 07432 152207

**THE MORTON PARTNERSHIP
Consultant Civil & Structural Engineers
Historic Building Specialists**

*We specialise in low cost repair options
to buildings and can assist you with
any building problem*

Suffolk Office: Brunel House, Norwich Rd,
Halesworth, Suffolk IP19 8HX **01986 875651**

London Office: Old Timber Yard House
55 The Timber Yard, Drysdale Street, London N1 6ND

THE HOUSEKEEPING COMPANY

Cleaning between lets, second homes cared for
Full caretaking service
Professional laundry service

01502 725746 | 07795 560245

COOPER & DENNY LTD - Building Contractors

Professional service & free estimates
26 Fountain Way, Reydon IP18 6SZ
info@cooperdenny.com
01502 723366

OUTNEY MEADOW LTD & CR HANCY GAS

Outney Meadow Caravan Park, Bungay NR35 1HG
Camping and canoe hire by the Waveney

01986 892338 - gas@outneymeadow.co.uk

SOUTHWOLD VOLUNTARY HELP CENTRE

Shopping, Befriending, Transport, Errands
Can we help you, or can you help us?

Contact **01502 724549**

24-hour answerphone - **www.southwoldvhc.com**
Charity No. 1164155

**Paul Bradley Ltd
ARCHITECTURE**

Portland House, 43 High Street, Southwold
Suffolk IP18 6AB **t: 01502 725222**
www.paulbradleyarchitecture.com

Advertising Manager: Penny Fox
pennyfox49@hotmail.com | 07990 994384