

What's on in Bucklesham?

Group	Date and Time	Venue
Walking Group	Mondays at 9am No need to book - just turn up	Meet in layby opposite the Shannon
Village Library	1 st Monday of month 10am-12pm	St Mary's Church
Geology Group	Monday mornings from 9:30am	Village Hall
Knit and Natter	1 st and 3 rd Monday afternoons of month	Village Hall
Pilates	Monday evenings	Village Hall
Little City	4 th Monday morning of month	Village Hall
Bucklesham Players	Tuesday evenings	Village Hall
Happy Babies	Wednesday mornings	Village Hall
Carpet Bowls	Wednesday afternoons from 2pm	Village Hall
Community Council	Various events through the year	Village Hall
Garden and Allotment Club	1 st Wednesday eve of month	Village Hall
Art Club	4 th Wednesday eve of month	Village Hall
Bumps, Babies and Toddlers Group	Thursday mornings 9:30am-11:30am	Village Hall
Evolution Karate	Thursday evenings Various sessions	Village Hall
Church Lunch	4 th Friday of month 12pm for 12:30pm	Village Hall
Yoga	Friday Mornings	Village Hall

To ask for your details to be passed on to the relevant group please contact the Parish Council at clerk@buckleshamparishcouncil.gov.uk

The Bucklesham Bugle ~ New Year 2025



The Parish Council have been busy planning the Budget for the year ahead. All money paid to the Parish Council comes through the Precept, paid by East Suffolk Council from your Council Tax contributions. You will see your Parish Council contribution clearly marked on your Council Tax bill in March. We are very mindful that we have a huge responsibility to ensure villagers get value for their money, therefore a great deal of time goes into carefully planning for any expenditure. The cost of many services has increased dramatically once again this year and this will have a knock-on effect on our budgeting. We are acutely aware of the pressures of the cost of living for so many villagers and we will continue to find ways to keep any increase in the Precept as minimal as possible.

The Parish Council would like to wish you all the best for this festive season. We hope that whatever 2025 brings, you are all safe and well, and that there is a peaceful and prosperous year ahead for all of us.

Bucklesham Players

Present



Bucklesham Village Hall

Friday 17th January 2025 7:30pm

Saturday 18th January 2025 2pm & 7:30pm

Sunday 19th January 2025 2pm

Tickets: £10 Adults £5 children (under 16)

Please contact: 01473 659619 or 07786 321041

Or email buckleshamplayers@hotmail.com or via Facebook buckleshamplayers

A Defibrillator is situated outside the **Village Hall**

12 Levington Lane – **In an Emergency Dial 999**

The Emergency Service Operator will instruct you and give you the keycode to unlock the cabinet and release the defibrillator

Parish Council Meeting Dates for 2025

**8th Jan, 12th March, 14th May, 9th July, 10th Sept, 12th Nov at 7pm in
Bucklesham Village Hall.**

We occasionally have additional Planning Meetings which are advertised via the **Bugle Bulletin**. All villagers are welcome to join us.

Bucklesham Village Website

For information on Bucklesham Parish Council,
Clubs and Societies, Amenities, Reporting Problems, News
and all things Bucklesham visit

<https://buckleshamparishcouncil.gov.uk>



The Parish Council has an email alert service – the **Bugle Bulletin**. This enables us to distribute important news around the village. It could be to inform you that a tree has come down and the road is blocked or major road works are planned, maybe a cat is missing or there is a stranger acting suspiciously in the village. We have also been able

to inform villagers of important messages from East Suffolk and Suffolk County Councils, such as planning applications. Any urgent village news can be sent out on the **Bugle Bulletin**. Whatever the news we will keep you informed, so why not add your name to the growing number of villagers receiving the **Bugle Bulletin**.

Bucklesham Allotments, Green Crescent

The Parish Council own and manage the village Allotments in Green Crescent.

If you are interested in managing a plot and would like to be added to the list, please contact clerk@buckleshamparishcouncil.gov.uk or 07854 712 734



Bucklesham Primary School News

We were all very proud of the 'Good' Ofsted rating we achieved in July and to have our school recognised as 'a small caring school which has a big vision for children's lives'. The inspectors praised the children's behaviour for being calm and respectful, and the teachers for having high expectations. It is lovely to see our school celebrated for all the things it can offer families across the curriculum, not just the academic side.

If anyone in the area is interested in becoming a Governor at the school, we do have one vacancy. Please contact the school office to find out more on 01473 659389.

Rachael Rudge, Head Teacher

We have replenished all the Grit Bins in the village so please feel free to scatter the Grit as necessary on our lanes when the cold weather comes.

St Mary's Church

Christmas is with us once again and it's a time when we hope to welcome many of you to our church services below. It has been a busy year for St Mary's, culminating in the successful restoration of the North roof. We would like to thank once again all those who supported our appeal. It is amazing that such a small church as St Mary's managed to raise £100,000 through grants and donations. To round the year off we raised £500 at our Christmas Craft and Coffee Morning. This was a wonderful result considering the gusty winds and rain that day! Thank you to everyone who came along and supported us so generously. Wishing you all a very Happy and Joyful Christmas and a Happy Healthy and Peaceful New Year from us all at St Mary's Bucklesham. **Rosemary Watson, Elder and Churchwarden**

22nd December – Carol Service 6pm

Christmas Eve – Service 3pm (a service especially for the young children, although enjoyed by all ages, when the figures of the Nativity are placed in the stable whilst the Christmas Story is read)

Christmas Day – Family Service 10am (It would be lovely if you could bring a present to show us)

******STOP PRESS – Changes to Bin Collections – STOP PRESS****
Friday 27th Dec will now be Sat 28th, and Friday 3rd Jan will now be Sat 4th**

Bucklesham Village Hall Annual Report 2024

The Village Hall can report that, despite the cost of living crisis having an impact on many Hall user groups, we have survived another year. We lost a regular group, but we welcomed two new groups, meaning the Hall is in use every day, every evening of the week, and most weekends. Once again, an excellent team effort from the volunteers in our hard-working committee have ensured that the Hall remains the thriving hub of the community. Huge thanks go to the Trustees of the Fuel Allotment Charity for their generous grant towards our fuel bills again this winter. We are extremely fortunate to have had the backing of the Community Council again, who successfully secured more grants to financially support us. It is thanks to these grants and very careful book-keeping that, despite the huge increase in costs again this year (our insurance, energy and fuel have increased by 25%), we have not had to increase the hire charges to our hobby clubs and village residents, and we remain the best value Hall in the area by some margin. We have had the sprung floor restored, a complete repaint of the interior of the Hall, and a new cleaning cupboard built, very kindly funded by the Parish Council from their Community Infrastructure Levy. Finally, we had to wave a farewell duster to our much loved cleaner, Bridget, who retired after countless years' service. We are extremely fortunate to welcome Terry to the team in the new role as Hall Caretaker. The Committee are thrilled with this appointment and we already know that we have made an excellent decision – Terry is managing the Hall for us fantastically and doing a brilliant job to protect it for the whole village.

**For Hall bookings contact the Village Hall Clerk, Ruth Johnson
buckleshamvillagehall@gmail.com or 01473 655149 / 07854 712 734**

Financial Support for Bucklesham Residents

Suffolk Community Foundation have launched their Surviving Winter Appeal 2024/25. The campaign is now in its 14th year and has raised more than £1.5m so far. This has provided a lifeline for many thousands of people by helping them to stay safe and healthy in their own homes as the weather turns colder.

You may apply for support if you meet the following criteria: aged 66 plus, not on pension credit, maximum income £20k individual and £24k couple, maximum savings £5,000, live in Suffolk.

Individuals wishing to apply need to contact East Suffolk Citizens Advice on 0808 278 7866 or advice@caes.org.uk

ATTENTION! Free Chocolate to all who read the Bugle

(OK, that's not really true – but what else can we do to get you to read this?)

The Parish Council is continually told 'I never knew anything about that' and 'nobody told me', but we do all we can to keep you as well informed as possible. We deliver this Bucklesham Bugle Newsletter four times a year to every home in the village (even the ones on the edge of the village, down muddy lanes, and in the middle of fields). We publish every Parish Council meeting agenda on the village website and follow up with the minutes within two days of each meeting too. We also have the **Bugle Bulletin Email Alert Service** which goes to 160 village email addresses, informing you all of all the latest news, missing cats, road closures, floods etc. (To add your email address to the delivery list just contact the Clerk.) Aside from carrier pigeons direct to your kitchen table, or standing outside your houses draped in a sandwich-board and screaming through a megaphone, what more can we do? We really are doing all we can to keep you informed –



all you have to do is read it! 😊

Playing Field News

We are chuffed to tell you that the dream of the Bike Jumps is now a reality for the children who requested them. James Perks and his friends from Twisted Oaks Bike Park and Trails spent hours of their time expertly designing and building the jumps, and Jake Nichols and his family from TRU7 provided all the materials and earth moving equipment needed free of charge. The jumps passed the safety inspection and are proving to be a big hit with all the children – and some of you big kids too it seems!

It is now 20 years since the majority of the Play Equipment was installed and much of it is now in need of replacement. The Parish Council would like to hear from parents, carers, and children who use the equipment with suggestions as to which pieces you would like replaced, and which are not such favourites. If there is something you would like us to add to the area please do let us know. We are now in the planning phase and would like some input from those who will use it.



Carpet Bowls Club

The Bucklesham Carpet Bowls Club are on the lookout for new members, beginners or experts are all made to feel welcome. If you want a new challenge in 2025, enjoying a sociable time with new friends, why not join us? There are enjoyable competitive games, but always with a smile on all our faces. Afterwards a tea is provided which is worth coming along for in itself! Come and join us on Wednesday afternoons at 2pm, you would be most welcome. Contact David Riddleston 01473 659760 or dkridd@hotmail.co.uk

Community Infrastructure Levy

Some great ideas have been put to the Parish Council for projects that will use the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) from the Castlemore Homes development on Levington Lane. CIL is a planning charge that the local planning authority impose on new developments. It is given to Parish Councils to spend in their area. There are strict guidelines on how the money can be spent, for example on specific things such as Open Spaces, Infrastructure and Community Facilities. If you have an idea for a village project that you would like the Parish Council to consider please contact the Clerk on clerk@buckleshamparishcouncil.gov.uk

A new game is being played in Bucklesham...

Many of you will be aware of a new game that some residents are being forced to play on a daily basis - 'Dodge the Dog Poo'. It's not a fun game, especially when you lose. If you own a dog and walk on our lanes, footpaths, fields and the Playing Field, PLEASE do the right thing and pick up after them. If you allow your dog off the lead, please watch where it goes - especially if you have more than one dog running in different directions! Poo bags cost pennies, and there are 7 dog bins in the village for your convenience. Anyone seen committing this offence may be reported to East Suffolk Council and may face a fine of £5,000. Regardless of the fine, even if it's dark and you think no-one can see you - just do the right thing and pick up your poo!



Bucklesham Community Council Annual Report 2024

Another year is nearly at an end and what a great year it has been for the village. We held a craft fayre in May which was well attended by both stallholders and visitors. We had very generous donations of cakes and the total profit was £559. We enjoyed the lighting of the beacon in June to mark the 80th anniversary of D-Day. It was very moving hearing the bugler play the Last Post. This was followed by a fantastic party in the Village Hall which was a free event for all villagers – it was great to see so many people having such a good time. In September we saw the Tour of Britain cycle race pass through the village, and Rachel Rudge the headteacher of Bucklesham primary school very kindly let us use the school field as we lined the route with bells and flags to wave – I'm sure that gave the cyclists a real boost on their way. We had the autumn craft fayre in November which raised £476, and last but not least we had the fantastic Beasts of Bucklesham Calendar. We printed 200 and managed to sell them all which raised a total of £1,606. All the money we raise is ploughed back into the village so that we can all benefit from future free events. We are looking forward to 2025 when we will arrange celebrations for the VE Day 80th commemorations, and we're also planning an old-fashioned summer fete on the school field. If you're interested in becoming a committee member we'd love to have you. It's very informal. We meet three or four times a year just to get our ideas together, or if you would just like to volunteer and help out at any events you would always be very welcome. Lastly, if anybody has any ideas for future events they would like us to try and put on, please contact Tracey Thompson at traceythompson67@icloud.com Merry Christmas everyone and wishing you all a peaceful New Year. **Your Community Council**

We have a vacancy for Parish Councillor – are you interested?

We are a very enthusiastic bunch and we have many projects on the go, so ideally we are looking for someone who would be willing to 'muck in' and be an active Councillor. No previous experience is needed and full training is available. We meet once every two months in the early evening and the Clerk is always on hand to explain things. We like to think we represent the whole community but we are currently a little short on younger Councillors. If you are interested please contact us – clerk@buckleshamparishcouncil.gov.uk