

Saxtead Snippets

Newsletter December 2024

At the end of a busy year, we wanted to keep you in touch with what has been happening and tell you about some new things for 2025.

Hopefully you noticed the new seat, dedicated to George Cullingford, which is now around the Oak Tree on the Green. There is also a much-needed new Parish Council noticeboard near the bus stop.

Green areas

Residents were rightly concerned that our green areas were not well cared for this year - the Parish Council raised this issue with Bidwells who manage The Green for Pembroke College. They have secured a new

contractor for 2025.

Litter

Thank you to all our volunteers who went out to collect litter in October from our roadsides. Sad that it needs to be done, but it makes such a difference. As well as the usual food containers there were a large number of - full- dog poo bags. Perhaps, in some case, the stick and flick method would be more appropriate, as long as it does not impact on walkers and residents! Thank you to Evelyn for organising, collecting equipment and liaising with SCC. It is a lot of work for a small group of people - if you can help, please join next year.

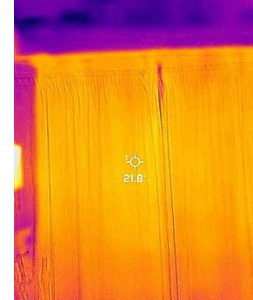


Not just a pretty picture.....

Saxtead Parish Council had the opportunity to use a thermal imaging camera to capture images of heat loss in properties in January 2024. We were delighted with the response as 27 residents signed up. Please see a few examples of what we found.



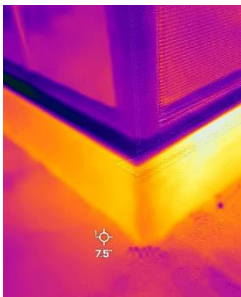
Left...A front door letting in the cold



Right....Shows the improvement made by drawing the curtains over that front door



Shows the location of a window and a door that actually didn't exist! Historically they would have been there, but the insulation wasn't good enough in these locations

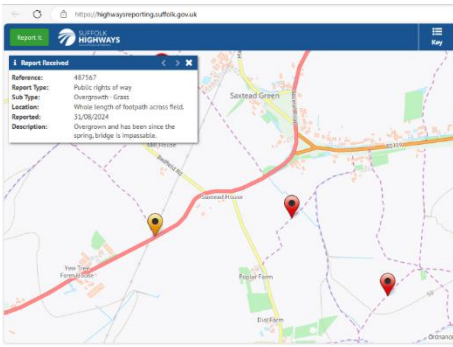


Shows a conservatory with effective triple glazed windows - but see the heat loss in the uninsulated base



Shows the efficiency of a thatched roof but the heat loss through a single glazed window (especially where there is a radiator right beneath!)

If you are interested in taking part next time or seeing if the improvements you have made are working, please contact cllrslater.spc@gmail.com Please also find some information from East Suffolk Council about keeping warm in winter which might be helpful -Referral form: [Winter warmth pack referral - Client and referrer details - Section 1 - My East Suffolk](#)



Walking our footpaths

Please help keep our footpaths.

We have some beautiful walks in Saxtead and we want to keep paths open. If you would like to join our walking group who sometimes do local walks, please contact David on 07887880667.

Suffolk County Council are responsible for footpaths so if you spot anything please report it. You will see some reports are already in place! [Suffolk County Council - ReportIT](#)

Raising some ££

We would love to raise a little money for our new road signs, as well as other things in the village such as a "slow down" sign. At the pub, there used to be a 100 Club - a monthly draw where you can potentially win a few pounds. Profits will go to village funds. We want to see if we can get this going again. If you are interested, pop into the pub after Christmas. Thank you as ever to the Mill House for running this scheme.

Recycling at home - Compost

Creating your own compost at home is an easy way to deal with kitchen scraps, garden waste and at this time of the year, falling autumn leaves. It reduces the amount of waste we send to landfill, is a wonderful way to create lots of different habitats for wildlife and saves money avoiding the need to buy (plastic) bags of compost and soil improvers. A compost heap is a great way to encourage more wildlife into your garden. It creates a refuge and feeding area for creatures such as hedgehogs, beetles, toads, bats, and birds. Many of these eat insects and slugs and therefore act as natural pest controllers, reducing the need for pesticides and other chemicals. Using compost in

your garden will help lighten heavy clay soils, improve water retention of light soils, feeds plants, and help control diseases. If you would like to start a compost heap at home, take a look at the following websites for help and advice and also for discounted compost equipment, supported by Suffolk council <https://www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk/recycling-composting/composting/home-composting> & <https://getcomposting.com/>



And if you would like to help Saxtead to become a greener community or have any questions about composting at home please contact us via email greensaxtead@gmail.com.

A thank you to Lydia

The Parish Council was extremely sorry to receive the resignation of its Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer, Lydia Kindred, at its September Meeting. Tributes were paid to Lydia for her exceptional service to the Parish Council and the community of Saxtead over many years. I feel sure the whole village, with the Parish Council, will want to extend its sincere thanks and very best wishes to Lydia as she continues to serve other communities in this locality.

Simon Hordern

We would like to say a huge thank you to Simon following his resignation from SPC at the end of October.

Simon has served on the Parish Council for several years, and with others worked to get our speed limits changed (work which should now begin early in 2025). He has been Chair through a number of more recent projects. In particular, Simon was committed to involving more people in what happened in our village, to improving communication and making connections.

His enthusiasm was infectious and we shall miss him.

Join our email group for occasional updates ...contact saxteadparishclerk@gmail.com

Check noticeboards and the A board outside The Mill House pub

If you use Facebook, follow Saxtead Community set up by Rupert Thornley-Taylor

Check the Saxtead Community Website saxtead.suffolk.cloud



1st Deben

Valley Scouts meet in Earl Soham on Mondays during term times. For more information please contact 1dv.group@suffolkscouts.org.uk or look on Facebook. Children are welcome to a free trial and adult volunteers are very welcome to join and support the group

Christmas Carols at the Pub

7pm on 21st December

Join us at the Old Mill House Pub, Saxtead to celebrate Christmas with friends and family, mulled wine, and mince pies.

With live music from Cransford Musicians.

Come and join in the festive cheer.

Saxtead Parish Council wish you all a **MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

www.saxtead.suffolk.cloud

The poster is a vertical rectangular graphic with a dark green background. It features two circular images: the top one shows a close-up of a Christmas tree branch with red and gold ornaments, and the bottom one shows a decorated Christmas tree in a room with wrapped gifts. The text is in white and yellow, providing details for a Christmas carol event on December 21st at 7pm at the Old Mill House Pub. It also includes a festive message from the Saxtead Parish Council and the website address.