

STAMBOURNE NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2025 - JANUARY 2026



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No: 289

STAMBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

The last meeting of 2025 took place on Thursday 20 November 2025 at 7.30pm in the village hall. We were pleased to welcome our District Councillor, Richard Van Dulken and County Councillor Peter Schwier and members of the public. In his report, Cllr Van Dulken referred the Parish Council to the consultation on the proposed Local Government Reform. The consultation is open until 26 January 2026, and everyone is encouraged to take part. Details are available here:

<https://consult.communities.gov.uk>

Pavilion – The pavilion has now been closed for the winter. It has been well used throughout the spring and summer and will be available again in the spring. If you would like to book the pavilion, please contact me (details at the bottom of this report).

Playing Field – The parish council have applied for grant funding from the Community Initiative Fund to buy a new piece of play equipment. We will keep you up to date with progress.

Planning – Application number 25/02346/COUPA - Unit 2, Greenfields Farm, Great Yeldham Road, Stambourne, Essex CO9 4ND – Members of the public

attended the meeting and made a statement about this proposal. After listening to the statement and considering the proposal, the parish council raised objections to it which have now been submitted.

Bleed Kits – As reported previously, the parish council have purchased two bleed kits which will be located at the village hall and chapel. These have now been delivered and will be fitted as soon as possible.

Church Road Telephone Box Book Swap – The lovely person who kindly set up and ran this has now stopped and the telephone box has been cleared. Unfortunately, this was because, despite notices in place, it was not kept tidy and books were left on the floor, making them damp. It was also being used to dump unwanted items which were not appropriate for use. *

Budget 2026/27 - At this meeting the parish council has to decide what its budgets will be for the next financial year. Figures were discussed and agreed in principle and will be reviewed again at the January meeting.

BONFIRE NIGHT

Once again this was a resounding success with large numbers of people attending to enjoy the fireworks, bonfire, food and drink. The weather was kind and the new arrangements for overflow parking worked extremely well with thanks to the landowners for kindly allowing us use of this land. As I have said before, it would not be possible to put on an event of this kind without the large number of volunteers who step forward every year. There are teams of people managing the bonfire, fireworks, teas, sweets, carparking, first aid and barbecue. Thank you also to Splinters for the loan of their barbecue. These people gave up their time to organise, set up, run and then clear up afterwards to raise money for their village. Thank you every one of you. Thank you to everyone in the village for your patience with the influx of traffic into the village. Some of the money raised from last year has been used to buy the bleed kits which are going to be installed at the Chapel and Village Hall, next to the defibrillators and some will be used to buy a new piece of play equipment with the help of an application for grant funding from the CIF Fund.



Proposed meeting dates for 2026 are:-

22 January 2026, 19 March 2026, 14 May 2026, 23 July 2026, 24 September 2026, 19 November 2026.

All at 7.30pm in the village hall.

Full minutes etc. are available on the village website at www.stambourne.com

Debbie Hilliard, Parish Clerk

Tel: 01440 785629

Email: clerk@stambournepc.org.uk

* Note: Since the Parish Council Meeting there have been discussions amongst villagers and it is hoped to reintroduce this village amenity.

ST. PETER & ST. THOMAS PARISH CHURCH

A big thank you to those who attended the Harvest Festival on 19th October and to those who decorated the church and gave items of food that were taken to the food bank. These items were gratefully received and a certificate will be with us in due course confirming the amount of meals we helped supply.

On 2nd November we welcomed Hugo and his family to our Church for his Baptism. It was a lovely service and refreshments were enjoyed by all after the service.

On 9th November at 10:50 am we held our act of remembrance at the War Memorial outside the Church and read out the names of those who had died and laid the poppy wreaths. Although only a few of us were present it was a poignant occasion.

We were then invited by Stambourne Chapel to join them for their Remembrance service with their guest preacher and musician, with refreshments after the service. Thank you to Brian and his team.

On 26th November we held out joint PCC meeting with Toppesfield at Berwick Hall. Just before this meeting Bob Bradfield decided to hand in his resignation from the PCC. Bob has served Stambourne Church and PCC for many years as a sidesman (churchwarden's assistant), lesson reader, PCC member and helping with many fund raising events in the past. Most of these duties he took on with his late wife Ann. Bob will be missed at our meetings but we look forward to seeing him at our church services. Thanks come from myself, the PCC, Rev. Tia and Rev. Justin for Bob's commitment to our Church.

SERVICES FOR THE NEXT THREE MONTHS:

Date	Time	Service	
21 December	9:30 am	Holy Communion	Rev'd Tia Stickland
28 December	11:00 am	Benefice Service at Castle Hedingham Church	
4 January	9:30 am	Morning Prayer	Rev'd Tia Stickland
18 January	9:30 am	Holy Communion	Rev. Tia Stickland
1 February	9:30 am	Morning Prayer	Rev'd Tia Stickland
15 February	9:30 am	Holy Communion	Rev'd Tia Stickland
1 March	9:30 am	Morning Prayer	Rev'd Tia Stickland
15 March	9:30 am	Holy Communion	Rev'd Tia Stickland

Val Kerrison, Churchwarden

Tel: 01440 785752 or 07879816362

Email: valeriekerrison@outlook.com





Dear All,

I have been asked to introduce myself as not everyone will be aware that I am now the local vicar.

My name is Tia Stickland and I have recently been ordained priest. I thought this photo from my ordination day might help you to recognise me when I am out and about. I will always be happy to stop and have a chat, or perhaps organise a time to meet up and talk later.

I am currently a second year curate and have the privilege of serving within the Benefice of Hedinghams and Upper Colne, with a particular responsibility for the parishes of Sts. Peter and Thomas, Stambourne and St. Margaret of Antioch, Toppesfield & Gainsford End. My husband Tim and I moved into our home in Gainsford End over 11 years ago now and we absolutely love living here. It is a real joy to be a part of these villages. We have lived the vast majority of our lives in rural areas and wouldn't have it any other way. We have a large family and thoroughly enjoy having family gatherings.

I very much look forward to offering you a warm welcome at one of our Services.

Rev'd Tia.

STAMBOURNE LADIES GROUP

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY – Wednesday 11 FEBRUARY

The first meeting of Stambourne Ladies Group in 2026!

It will be membership time again—come along and sign-up for another year with us, as we share our exciting plans for 2026.



VILLAGE HALL

Thank you to everyone who came to the Halloween Quiz on 25 October. The evening was a great success and much fun was had by all.



We said goodbye to Stan our postie. He came to our first turning on of the Christmas lights at the village hall on 29 November. Many villagers turned up for mulled wine, sausage rolls and mince pie and we had a marvellous tombola stall.

A big thank you to the following:

Oscar for supplying the tree

Joanne and John for the contribution towards the new Christmas lights

Val for supplying the carol hymn sheets and choosing the carols

Malc for the music and stage decorations

Jill and Trish for setting up and manning the tombola and everyone who donated prizes

Finally everyone who helped set up and clear up, before, during and after the event or made a contribution in anyway.

We hope to arrange a similar event for Christmas 2026 and start a new village tradition!

MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR!

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

BINGO – every Monday afternoon 3 pm – 4:30 pm.

The last session before Christmas is 15 December but will commence again on 5 January.

Do join us as the more people who come the bigger the prize money.

A big thank you to everyone who supports this – have a lovely Christmas.



YOGA

Tuesday evening 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm.

This is going well and Jo who runs the class also organises meditation days and much more.



Thursday afternoon 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Unfortunately numbers have dropped. Jo will carry on taking this class returning on 8 January but if numbers don't increase it won't be continuing into February. It is all seated and gives gentle body exercise to those of us less able. Please do pop along and give it a try.

If anyone required further information on any of these activities please do ring me, Wendy on 07801 36200 or 01440 788702.

Also do come along to the next Village Hall meeting on Wednesday 11 February at 5 pm in the hall.

To book the hall please ring Rosemary on 01440 785339

STAMBOURNE NEWSLETTER





Contributions for the next newsletter (to cover events in February, March and April) to Karen Crago preferably email to kcrago@btinternet.com or place in the post box at Tagley Farm by Friday 30 January, please.



Note: Some changes to the normal collection day in the next six months:


My Recycling Calendar

MONDAY ROUTE 1

OCTOBER 2025	NOVEMBER 2025	DECEMBER 2025
6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 30 TUES
JANUARY 2026	FEBRUARY 2026	MARCH 2026
6 12 19 26 TUES	2 9 16 23	2 9 16 23 30
APRIL 2026	MAY 2026	
7 13 20 27 TUES	5 11 18 26 TUES	

**GREY BIN
AND FOOD BIN**


**GREEN BIN
(subscribers only)
CLEAR SACKS
AND FOOD BIN**


**CLEAR SACKS AND
FOOD BIN ONLY
(GREEN BIN
SUSPENDED)**
