

Ringshall

SLHC Parish Recorder's Annual Report 2021

2021 started with the whole of England in lockdown due to the Covid 19 virus. Mid Suffolk area in lockdown Tier 2 High alert with Covid numbers recorded at 470 cases.



Ringshall Stocks on 8th February approaching from the east on B1078 road

The parish month by month

January started with a beautiful sunny day, the ground was very wet and the water table high. On the 9th the Ringshall countryside looked beautiful, awaking to an unusual Rime Frost (freezing fog). A lot of rain was recorded this month, the ditches at Ringshall Stocks were very full and the highest I have ever seen here in 28 years. Low-lying neighbouring villages had flooding which caused travel disruption.

Road works again on the B1078 caused disruption lasting 17 days. Vodafone contractors carrying out road repairs where high speed broadband cabling installed to Wattisham.

MSDC council changed the ongoing weekly bin collection from a Wednesday to Friday. On the 11th the Garden waste collection stopped due to Covid and the lack of staff.

Midway through the month the snowdrops were out and the first Covid vaccinations started in the area with the over 65's. Most villagers were getting these at 'The Mix' in Stowmarket.

On the 20th in the far north east corner of the playing field, Liz Hitchcock, acting as the Parish Tree Warden, planted an Elm tree which was gifted to the parish from 'The Tree Council' to celebrate 30 years of Tree Wardening. It is a Hillier's *Ulmus 'New Horizon'* and will grow to approximately 12m high x 4.5m wide after 25 years.

26th the Parish Council Meeting was carried out virtually via online Zoom.

29th the overhead electric supply to Stocks Farm was rerouted under Lower Farm Road. Stocks Farm Bungalow was put on a separate supply.

February Wednesday the 3rd at 6pm saw the first 'door step clap' for the NHS and the death of Sir Tom Moore. There was a good turnout from the line of neighbouring houses along Lower Farm Road.

The 2nd week in saw the arrival of the strong cold winds of Storm 'Darcy' (The Beast from the East 2). 3 days of heavy snow and the strong winds caused snow drifts on the roads. The B1078 and the smaller village roads were severely effected with cars getting stuck. Hitchcock Farm kept the roads as clear as possible with their snow plough. The Primary School was closed. Wattisham recorded 10cm snow fall on the 8th and a further 17cm on the 9th.

Temperatures fell to -3 degs with wind chill making it feel like -9 degs. Snow finally melted on 16th and the last week of the month was very sunny with temperatures rising to 10 degs.



March In the first week the Village Hall car park was closed as work started on installing a new sewage treatment unit for the Village Hall. The hall had previously been connected into the Primary School sewage treatment unit. This was an agreement put in place in 1994 when the hall was built. The school is now a private run Academy. They installed a new treatment works to the School in 2020 and wanted the Village Hall to pay to discharge into it. It was decided that the Village Hall should be on its own independent system.

The large, 3m deep, electrically operated 'Kingspan Klargestor' BioDisc below ground sewage treatment unit was installed in the grassed area at the front of the Hall. The work was done by local firm Binders Ltd and completed in 5 days.

Work started at on the new 5 Bedroom chalet bungalow on the site of the demolished derelict Old Piggery at Broad View Farm on Lower Farm road.

On the 5th the 2021 Census form arrived in the post and our resident blackbird started to build a nest. The first cut of the lawn and the council garden waste bin collection restarted.

April After a year of no service due to Covid, the mobile Library Van service restarted on Thursday 22nd at the Village Hall and Wattisham Car park.

19th-30th Stowmarket Road closed from Lower Farm Road to Carters Lane for Vodaphone to dig up the Fibre Cabling reinstatement for a 3rd time!

May The Primary School saw a change as Head Teacher Ms Tania Devereux retired and Mr Gough arrived. On the 6th Steven Smith of S.R Smith Stocks Farm on Lower Farm Road invited the Primary School pupils to visit the farm and see the farm machinery.

Also on the 6th the Village Hall opened up for the first time in 14 months since Covid restrictions came into force. It was the Polling station for the Suffolk County Council Bosmere Division local election and to elect the Police and Crime commissioner for Suffolk police.

The Hall fully opened up with all Covid safety measures in place on the 18th May allowing local clubs to return and to take private bookings. A new free Wifi system had also been installed. The Parish Council had its Annual meeting live in the Hall and via the Internet on Zoom. New councillors were elected.

On the beautiful morning of Sunday the 15th there was a small gathering amongst the bluebells at Muckinger Wood to remember and bury the ashes of Barry Warren who died on January 29th aged 76 years. He lived in the village most of his life, as a boy in Coronation Glebe with his granny and then in the now derelict little cottage on the Stowmarket Road opposite The Old Rectory. He was a well known character in the parish.

June There was an extraordinary Parish Council meeting called to discuss repairs to the Village Hall car park.

July In the 3rd week of the month Wattisham Flying Station were doing Apache helicopter essential training, which meant more than normal flying in the day and late at night on the 21st-23rd. Notifications were published in the local EADT and notified to the Parish Council.

August Brought more road closures on the main B1078 road going to Needham Market, which lead to long diversions. Once again, it was Vodaphone working on the Fibre Cabling reinstatement! The 9th - 13th closed at Barking and then 16th-26 from Lower Farm Road to the Willisham Road at Barking. To add to the chaos, the Somersham road was closed 23rd - 27th. Delivery vans were seen taking short cuts across private farm fields!

At night, gardens on the south side of Lower Farm Road were now getting visits from hedgehogs, feeding on the seeds dropped from bird feeders. On our patio we would have 2 or 3 arrive around 10pm and one night we had 5.



September On the 1st there was the first Village Hall social event with a live band and general socialising. It was a success with a lot of new villagers enjoying themselves.

October In the first week we had the last sighting of the hedgehogs, which were now much larger than when they first arrived!

On Saturday 9th we had the excitement of being on the route of the AJ Bell Women's Cycle Tour, Britain's biggest professional cycle race. Day/stage 6 Haverhill to Felixstowe. The route included Wattisham Airfield runway, Lower Farm Road and Stowmarket Road. At 12:55pm Lower Farm Road was lined with villagers to watch and wave to the stream of cyclists, support vehicles and escort police going through, all in 13 minutes.

On 24th in Church of St. Catherine was the Baptism of Loki Peter Singh Sale. The family had recently moved into the village in 2020.

At the end of the month Dave Smith left the role of Parish Clerk for the Parish Council. He had been in this position since 2019

November The post of Ringshall Parish Clerk was advertised, requiring 20 hours a month, with a Salary of £11.30 - £11.76 per hour, depending on experience. Must be able to attend Tuesday evening meetings of the Parish Council every two months, closing date of 15th November.

On the 14th at 10:45am there was a remembrance service held at the Parish War memorial on the Wattisham / Ware road when 60 people attended. The parish poppy collection was done in the 2nd week and raised £142.

On the evening of the 19th the Local Ringshall Amateur Theatrical Society (RATS) held their AGM at the Village Hall. This was their first get-together since 7th Feb 2020. The 17 attending members were keen to continue with the group and put on productions in Feb and June 2021 if Covid restrictions allowed.

Dog training classes had also restarted in the Hall.

December This saw a rise in Covid cases in the UK with a new variant. Government Covid recommendations and guidelines tightened and once again clubs and functions at the Village Hall were cancelled in this month.

Possible public play area on the Village Hall playing field

In the second half of the year the Parish Council and Village Hall committee formed a joint working group to explore the possibility of installing a formal fixed play equipment area on the playing field. In October they distributed questionnaire to 300 households in the parish asking for feedback and ideas. By November, 47 had been returned, 45 in favour and 2 not in favour due to concern about lack of use and potentially encouraging anti-social behaviour. The predominate age group range was for 4-12 years. The working group is also closely involving the primary school in the design.

'The Four Parishes News-Link'

This magazine, which covers the villages of Barking, Battsford, Great Bricett and Ringshall continued with 10 publication in the year giving continued information of local news and events. This year has seen the content grow considerably with more contributions, including the addition of local walks, puzzles, quizzes and recipes. Due to Covid restrictions the yearly subscription of £4 was collected in the month of June.

'The Eagle Online'

The HQ Wattisham Flying Station Community free online magazine continued to upload its three issues for the year with articles on what has been happening and future events planned at the station <http://www.theeagleonline.co.uk/magazine/>.

Council Tax

For Band D 2021/22 was a total of £1836.69, a rise of £73.97 on 2020/21.
How was it made up

| Authority Name | Amount |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| Suffolk County Council | £1251.38 |
| Suffolk CC Adult Social Care | £145.78 |
| Mid Suffolk District Council | £171.59 |
| Ringshall Parish Council | £30.25 |
| Police & Crime Commissioner | £237.69 |

Population of the Parish

The population is the same as stated in Recorder's Initial Report dated December 2021

Total Dwellings of the Parish

The numbers are the same as stated in Recorder's Initial Report dated December 2021

House & land Sales for the Parish

Properties in Ringshall had an overall average price of £514,167 over the last year. Sold prices over last year were 15% up on 2020. Prices were 2% down on the 2013 peak of £526,000 (from rightmove.co.uk)

Charles Tye

Woodlands Farm, Bildeston Road, Charles Tye, Ringshall, Stowmarket, IP14 2LY
16th century Grade II listed 5 bedroom timber framed farm house, set in 4.5 acres of land with a large barn, barn, stables & cart lodge. Sold on 29 March 2021 for £842,500

Ringshall

The Thatch, Stowmarket Road, Ringshall, Stowmarket, IP14 2HZ
3 Bedroom detached thatched Cottage. Sold 2 March 2021 for £467,500.
Last sold Nov 2004 for £335,000, Apr 1998 for £141,000 and Jan 1997 for £136,250.

Hill Farm Barn, Stowmarket Road, Ringshall, Stowmarket, IP14 2HZ. Detached converted barn, converted to dwelling in 2007. Sold 15 June 2021 for £725,000. Last sold 31 Dec 2008 for £486,000

Ringshall Hall Farm Barn, Stowmarket Road, Ringshall, Stowmarket, IP14 2HZ
Impressively restored barn conversion. The Grade II* Listed property is understood to have been a manorial court hall in 1570 and then converted into a barn. It was renovated into a substantial 6 bedroom house in 1993. It has a vaulted full height open plan living room showing the original oak timber frame and trussed roof. The bedrooms are located on the first and second floors.
It is set in 10.31 acres of land with a large traditional cart lodge, garage and stabling block. Proposed to be sold at auction in May 2021 as Lot 1 with guide price of £1,000,000
Also sold at same auction was Lot 2 farm buildings, a steel portal frame dutch barn, 4 loose boxes and range of pigsties, adjoining meadow and farmland set in about 10 acres of land.
Lot 3 part of the ancient 'Muckinger' woodland about 6.47 acres
Recorded as sold in June 2021, but with no price.

Ringshall Stocks

Lothlorien Lower Farm Road, Ringshall, Stowmarket, IP14 2JE.
Detached modern 3 Bedroom bungalow sold 27 August 2021 for £397,500
Previously sold 19 September 2018 for £354,000 and 4 April 2014 for £335,000

Bramble House, 7 The Orchard, Ringshall, Stowmarket, IP14 2RS
Detached modern 4 bedroom house built in 2010, sold 4 May 2021 for £502,500
Last sold 04 April 2014 for £335,000 and 26 February 2010 for £370,000

Fridays, Lower Farm Road, Ringshall, Stowmarket, IP14 2JB
Detached modern 70s / 80s 4 bedroom House sold 16 March 2021 for £350,000
Last sold 12 Dec 2014 for £280,000, 7 Jul 2011 for £232,250, 10 Jun 2009 for £187,560 and
12 August 2002 for £155,000

1 South View Offton Road, Ringshall, Stowmarket, IP14 2JD
Semi-detached 4 bedroom house previously a council house built in 1936 with a large 2 storey
extension about 2006. Sold on 20 January 2021 for £340,000
Previously sold 17 July 2015 for £252,000, 28 July 2010 for £204,500 and 10 December 2004
for £162,500

Stocks Lodge, Lower Farm Road, Ringshall, Stowmarket, IP14 2JB
Modern Detached 3 bedroom chalet bungalow Built in
Sold on 16 February 2021 for £331,650. Last sold 7 May 2014 for £237,500

Benicia House, Lower Farm Road, Ringshall, Stowmarket, IP14 2JB
Modern Detached 3 Bedroom House Built in 2014. Sold 2 February 2021 for £325,000
Last sold 5 Sept 2014 for £240,000

1 The Willows, Lower Farm Road, Ringshall, Stowmarket, IP14 2JE
New constructed 3 bedroom Bungalows completed and occupied July 2021. The land was
previously allotments just outside the Village Planning boundary

2 The Willows, Lower Farm Road, Ringshall, Stowmarket, IP14 2JE
New constructed 3 bedroom Bungalows completed and occupied Sept 2021. The land was
previously allotments just outside the Village Planning boundary



*Ringshall Stocks approaching from the west on Lower Farm road.
The two new bungalows 1 & 2 'The Willows' on the end of the village nearing completion.*

Notable Planning Applications submitted in the year

Ringshall House, Offton Road, Ringshall, Stowmarket Suffolk IP14 2JD

Planning permission & listed building consent granted for erection of two single storey extensions (following demolition of existing extension), re-rendering and repairs, new windows (as per schedule of works); Erection summer house; Extension to cartlodge lodge and alterations to driveway to include new pedestrian access fencing and gates.

Elder House, Charles Tye, Ringshall, Stowmarket Suffolk IP14 2HU

Planning permission granted for erection of 1.5 storey side/rear extension

Rondo, Lower Farm Road, Ringshall, Stowmarket Suffolk IP14 2JE

Planning permission granted for erection of porch, installation of timber cladding to front and side elevations, insertion of roof window to east elevation and conversion of garage to additional living accommodation.

Chestnuts Farm, Charles Tye, Ringshall, Stowmarket Suffolk IP14 2HU

Planning permission granted for conversion of barn to dwelling, erection of detached garage and the change of use of land to form residential curtilage

Broad View Farm, Lower Farm Road Ringshall Suffolk IP14 2JF

Outline Planning Permission Refused for erection of 2No. dormer style dwellings with associated detached garaging, and new vehicular access to highway.

Woodlands Farm, Bildeston Road, Ringshall, Suffolk IP14 2LY

Planning permission & listed building consent granted for erection of single storey extension, replacement of all contemporary windows, insertion of french doors replacing window, insertion of windows to ensuite and cloakroom, replace external render and internal alterations.

7 Coronation Glebe, Ringshall Suffolk IP14 2HZ

Planning permission granted for erection of single storey front and rear extensions



Derelict little cottage on the Stowmarket Road opposite The Old Rectory, the former home of Barry Warren



Looking north on Stowmarket Road, Ringshall at junction with Carters Lane.

The Thatch which sold in march and further up the road Hill Farm Barn which sold in June