

March 2026 Newsletter



Welcome to Long Sutton Parish Council Newsletter, bringing you a summary of the latest Parish news and information.

Parish Council News



Next Parish Council Meeting - 3rd March 2026

The next parish council meeting is on **Tuesday 3rd March** at 7.30pm in the Committee Room of the Village Hall.

The agenda for the meeting will be published on the Parish Council website (link below) up to seven days before the meeting date.

[Agenda and Minutes](#)

An Update from the Nature Reserve

Whilst the land has been preparing for spring, so have the local group of volunteers with lots already happening at the Nature Reserve early this year:

- Planting several hundred willow rods of different species to provide nectar, shelter and, hopefully, materials for future willow weaving classes

- Continued building up of the stone banks with stone that was kindly donated by residents
- Fantastic volunteering from a local Duke of Edinburgh student to help us select all the new planting for alongside the ponds now they're dug and filling up nicely
- Replacing some of the saplings that didn't make it through the drought last summer

There's lots planned for spring and as always we'd love to get your ideas and suggestions. Volunteers are also always welcome.

We'd also like to thank all the amazing residents who've been up to the Reserve, used it respectfully and commented on what a lovely spot it is to admire the levels. We're really hoping it'll come to life this spring and provide a great place for residents to get some fresh air and connect with nature.

As always, please contact the Clerk or Cllr Ben Wielgus for further information, and we look forward to enjoying the Reserve in some blue sky days again soon!



SAVE THE DATE.....Thursday 14th May



Annual Parish Meeting

Thursday 14th May 2026 at 7.30pm

in the Village Hall, Long Sutton

Guest Speaker: Cllr Bill Revans, Leader of Somerset Council

The Chairman of the Parish Council and other representatives from various clubs and societies will give short presentations to provide an update.

This is **NOT** a parish council meeting, but a meeting **FOR** residents. Please come along and enjoy tea, coffee and cake. Chat with fellow members of your community and hear all the latest news on what's going on in our village.

The **Annual Parish Meeting** will be taking place again this year in the Village Hall, and this year's guest speaker will be Cllr Bill Revans, Leader of Somerset Council. Come and hear straight from the horse's mouth the challenges that have been encountered and further details of some of their successful endeavours.

Pop the date in your diary now - **Thursday 14th May at 7.30pm** in the Village Hall, and come and hear the latest news from the various clubs and societies in our community.

Sports & Activity Taster Day
Saturday 18th April 2pm - 5pm



Everyone is invited to attend Long Sutton's first "Sports & Activity Taster Day" on **Saturday 18th April between 2pm and 5pm** in the Village Hall and around the Recreation Field and Pavilion (where the bar and BBQ will be in operation).

Come and "have go" at a variety of activities and sports that occur in the village, such as:- karate, pilates, yoga, cricket, tennis, table tennis, boule/pétanque (on the new court), short-mat bowls and pickle ball.

Bring along your basketball, skateboard or BMX bike and have a go on the village's own facilities. There is something for everyone!

If you have never thought about having a go at any of the pastimes that take place in the village, or perhaps have been too shy to take part formally, then this is your opportunity to "chance your arm" and just get stuck in - or just watch from the sidelines and see what all the fuss is about!

Long Sutton Levellers W.I



Annual Meeting & March Update

Our Annual Meeting is fast approaching and, like many groups, we are experiencing a time of change. We say a heartfelt thank you and goodbye to Lorraine Fenton, General Committee Member, and Heather Wootten, our Secretary. Both have given generously of their time and energy, and we are deeply grateful for everything they have done for the Levellers.

March Meeting – Emergency Life-Saving Skills

We will welcome First Responders Penny and Robin, who will lead a practical Emergency Life-Saving CPR session in support of the WI national campaign "Bystanders Can Be Lifesavers." An empowering and potentially life-saving evening for everyone.

Why not join us for 2026–27?

Our new membership year starts in **April** making it the perfect time to join the Levellers. An **Annual subscription is £54 (£4.90 per month)** and includes 11 monthly WI meetings plus organised outings and activities, national & county WI magazines, access to online learning hub and opportunities to take part in county events and national campaigns.

You can also join at any time: • First visit free • Second visit just £5

Stay Connected Follow us on Facebook: Long Sutton Levellers WI

Any questions please get in touch by email on longsuttonwi@gmail.com or call Jane Fell — 07823 559175

[Click here to see the W.I page on our website](#)



A **coffee morning** to support Long Sutton Primary School, will be held on **Saturday 7th March 2026** at Holy Trinity Church, 10.30 am to midday. If you would like to donate any items for our produce stall, this would be hugely appreciated.

[The School's page on the website can be found here](#)

"Love where you Live" - The Great British Spring Clean - 13th to 29th March



The Great British Spring Clean is the nation's biggest mass-action environmental campaign. This is a great chance to join together with your friends and neighbours and get involved with a national mission to tackle litter. The campaign runs from 13 to 29 March 2026 and you can pledge as an individual, a group or a Keep Britain Tidy volunteer - follow the link below to the campaign website.

Do not tackle drug debris, hazardous waste or heavy items - report online to Somerset Council: [Somerset Council Information on Litter Bins and Drug Debris](#)

[Click here for more information from Keep Britain Tidy](#)

Are you protected against RSV?

The little-known jab keeping over 75's out of hospital this winter.



**Are you aged 75 to 79?
You can protect yourself
from serious lung infection.**

**Every year, thousands of older people need hospital care
for respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) infection.**

It affects the lungs and can cause pneumonia.

**RSV vaccination is the best protection,
with over 75's a priority for a free NHS vaccine.**

**If you're aged 75 to 79 (or turned 80 after 1 September
2024) your GP surgery will contact you for an appointment.**

There's a winter virus which can be much more serious for those aged 75 and over. It's a major cause of respiratory illness in the UK, often starting like a simple cold, but can quickly lead to pneumonia, breathing problems and even hospital stays in those who are most vulnerable.

Many people don't realise that the NHS now offers a vaccine that protects against this virus. It's a newer offer for older adults, which is why you may not have heard much about it yet. But it can make a real difference to staying well and staying independent.

What's the virus? The virus is called RSV which stands for Respiratory Syncytial Virus. It spreads easily through coughs and sneezes and can hit older lungs much harder than expected. In over 75's it can cause pneumonia and flare-ups of existing lung disease and other long-term conditions. It causes around 9,000 hospitalisations in those aged over

75 in the UK each year. The RSV vaccine can help protect you - a single dose helps boost protection for a few years, helps prevent pneumonia, reduces the risk of hospital stays and supports staying active and independent

How to get the vaccine The NHS is offering the RSV vaccine to people aged 75-79 and those who turned 80 years old after 1 September 2024. It is also being offered to pregnant women, as it protects newborn babies during their first months of life. Your GP surgery will contact you to offer you an RSV vaccination appointment if you are eligible.

If you haven't heard from them, but meet the above criteria, then please contact your GP to book a vaccination.

A small jab now can help keep you out of hospital later.

[More information on the RSV vaccine can be found here](#)

FOLSC latest news

'Spring into Action'



On **Saturday 7th February** FOLSC sponsored the Coffee morning, and a very social gathering ensued, despite the incessant rain attempting to prevent those from Long Load crossing the bridge! Many thanks to all who contributed to our produce stall - we are delighted to report a total profit of £772, with £635 going into our fighting fund and £137 to Holy Trinity. Takings were up on 2025, but with the Government imposing 20% VAT on church repairs, effective from 1st April (the date has not been lost on us), we were down by 6% in real terms. We have suggested Ms Reeves may like to perform yet another Government U-turn, but have received no response to date. This niggle aside, none of this would be possible without the wonderful baking skills of Shirley, Marian, Jean & Jill who offer a mouthwatering selection of cakes and savouries month in and month out, so a special thank you to them!

On **Monday 2nd March** we are holding our **AGM** at the school by kind permission of the Head. This is always a very informal and social gathering, so we invite members and non-members to join us (the latter in a non-voting capacity) to hear what we have been up to in 2025 and our plans for 2026. We particularly welcome all those who are new to our and even better if they would like to sign on as members of our Charity!



FOLSC Annual General Meeting

Monday 2nd March

Long Sutton Village School.

**Doors open 6.00pm and meeting to
commence at 6.30pm**

**Non-members welcome so come
along and see what we have been up
to in 2025 and our plans for 2026.**

And don't forget we have our first social and fundraiser of 2026 on **Saturday 7th March - a Mouse Race Extravaganza**. The doors to the Village Hall will open at 7.00pm and the mice will be under starters orders for the first race at 7.30pm. Tickets are priced at £10 (children are free) and are on sale now from Jig at the village shop, Amy at the Upton Bridge Farm shop or any of the FOLSC trustees.

We will of course have our fully stocked FOLSC bar open the entire evening, so we look forward to welcoming you and please remember to bring some cash if you want a flutter (as we hope you will)!

Local Business of the Month

After 18 years of teaching and managing secondary schools, Steve decided to turn his passion into a new career, working with residents

across Long Sutton and Langport areas to help them with their carpentry and woodwork needs. The son of Dave Appleby, often described as one of the UK's best woodturners, working with wood is in his blood and he now loves delivering bespoke carpentry services as well as wider handyman services of any size or scale.

Projects have been hugely varied and include:

- A large timber framed extension to a 12th century chapel
- The conversion of an old milking parlour into a bespoke Air B&B
- The conversion of a steel framed barn to a timber framed gymnasium, workshop, office and bathroom
- The complete restoration of two Georgian manor houses

And many smaller jobs:

- Fencing
- Stud walls and new doorways and decorating
- Decking and gardening
- Making and hanging custom shelves from reclaimed scaffold boards
- Restoring wooden kitchen worktops
- Adapting tables to fit a new space
- Laying patios

For more information see AMWoodcraftUK on Instagram and Facebook or contact Steve Appleby on 07449704136.

No job is too big or too small.



AM Woodcraft UK

BESPOKE CARPENTRY

Let us know if there is anything else you would like to see in the newsletter: clerk@longsutton-pc.gov.uk

Long Sutton Parish Council

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