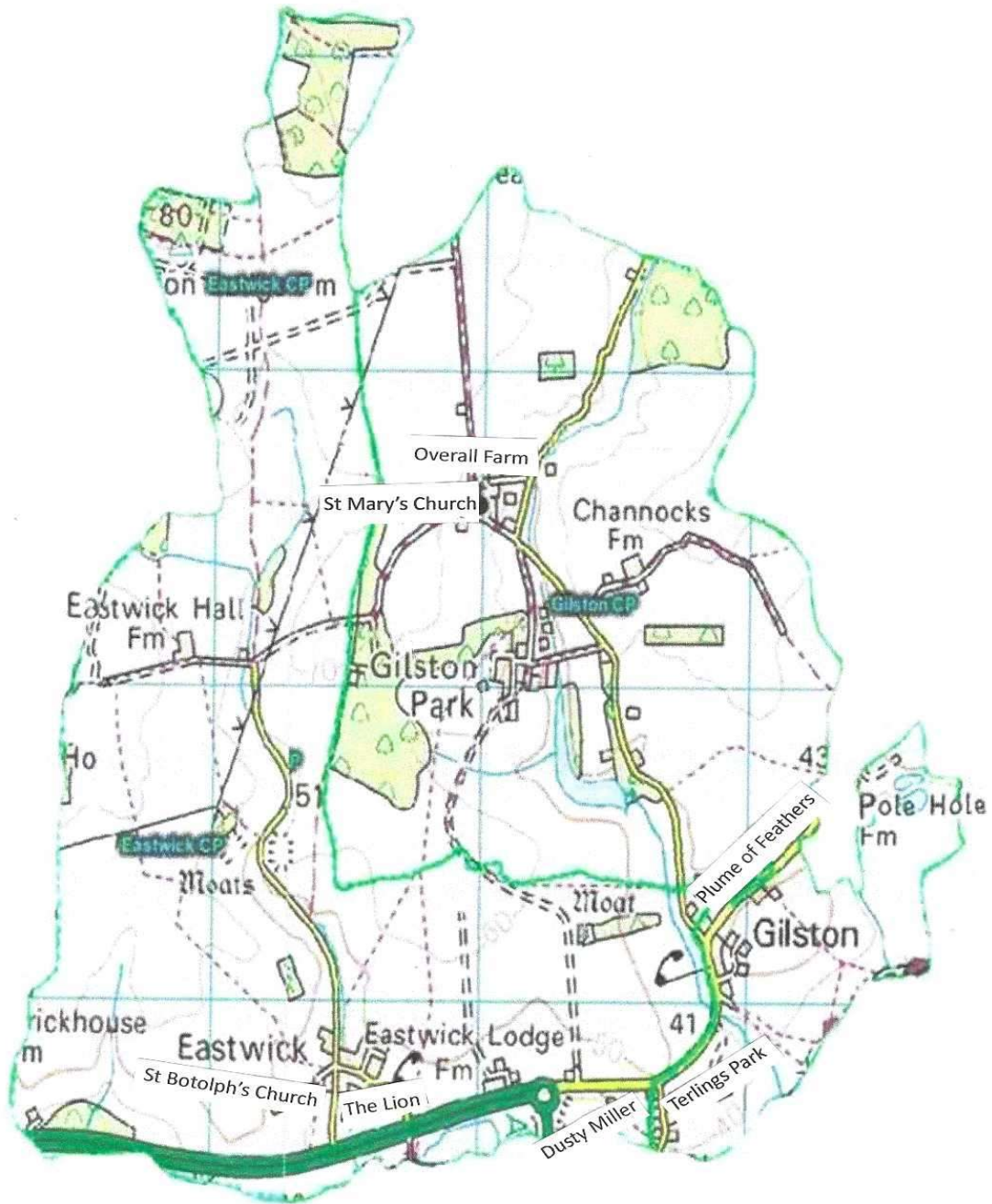


EASTWICK AND GILSTON PARISH MAGAZINE



MAY 2025

GILSTON AND EASTWICK VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



See below a calendar of all clubs and classes that take place at our hall.
For more information about booking the hall go to www.eastwickgilston.org.uk

MONDAY			
	Parish Council	Parish Clerk – Christine Law 01279 411646 Meet on the 2 nd Monday of January, March, May, July, September & November	8.00pm – 10.00pm
TUESDAY	Zumba Gold	Eric John - 07816215575	10.30am – 11.30am
WEDNESDAY		Hall Cleaning	1.00pm – 3.00pm
THURSDAY	Baby Massage	Elena Luck	9.30am – 2.30pm
	Irish Dancing	Amanda Hennigan – 07713974077 For More Information	6.30pm – 8.30pm
FRIDAY	Chair Pilates	Sarah-Jane – sarahjane_786@hotmail.com	10.30am -11.30am
SATURDAY			
SUNDAY			

Chair: Janine Bryant

Vice Chair: Trevor Brown

Treasurer: Linda Harvey

Bookings Officer: Erin Reilly 07710271611

Holding Trustee: Keith Harvey & Mary Jackson

Booking enquiries: gevillagehall@gmail.com For any bookings and queries about the Village Hall please contact: gevillagehall@gmail.com. Or go to www.eastwickgilston.org.uk, then village hall to use the calendar to view when the hall is available to book and use the booking form facility to book your event and to read the terms and conditions required.

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USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

EASTWICK & GILSTON PARISH COMMUNITY WEB SITE: eastwickandgilston.org.uk

www.gilston.info
gilston@meeting-place.uk

HUNSDON EASTWICK & GILSTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN GROUP WEBSITE: hegnp.org.uk - For all regular updates and information from the group you can subscribe to the mailing list at this link: <https://tinyletter.com/gilston>.

EAST HERTS DISTRICT COUNCIL: <https://www.eastherts.gov.uk>. Telephone 01279 655261

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL: <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk>. Telephone 030012234040

FLY TIPPING

Report all Fly Tipping to East Herts Council on 01279 655261 or enquiries@eastherts.gov.uk, eastherts.gov.uk/flytipping. In an emergency situation contact the Police on 999.

HIGH WYCH POST OFFICE

Located at the rear of High Wych Memorial Hall. Open **Mondays** 9.30am – 12.30pm .
Wednesdays 1.00pm – 3.15pm. **Thursdays** 9.30am – 12.30pm.

KNOW YOUR COUNCILLORS

EASTWICK AND GILSTON PARISH COUNCILLORS



CHAIRMAN
MARK ORSON
01279 453257
Mark.orson@outlook.com
Neighbourhood Planning Group
Footpaths Officer



VICE CHAIR
JANINE BRYANT
piers.bryant@yahoo.co.uk
Neighbourhood Planning Group



LINDA HARVEY
01279 410435
cllr.l.harvey@eastwickandgilstonparish.gov.uk
Highways
Village Hall Committee



WERNER MARX
cllr.w.marx@eastwickandgilstonparish.gov.uk



JAMES BEAZLEY
jdbeazley@aol.com



PARISH CLERK
CHRISTINE LAW
01279 411646
clerk@eastwickandgilstonparish.gov.uk
Write to: 9 Church Cottages,
Gilston, Herts CM20 2RH



JOHN DUNLOP
**EAST HERTS DISTRICT
COUNCILLOR**
john.dunlop@eastherts.gov.uk



ERIC BUCKMASTER
07578 170303
**HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY
COUNCILLOR**
eric.buckmaster@hertfordshire.gov.uk

EASTWICK AND GILSTON PARISH COUNCIL

THIS IS THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

FOLLOWED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING

NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON
MONDAY 12TH MAY 2025– 8.00PM

VILLAGE HALL, PYE CORNER

All residents are most welcome to attend our council meetings.

CHRISTINE LAW - PARISH CLERK
01279 411646 christine.law2@btinternet.com

WE HAVE TWO VACANCIES TO BE FILLED FOR PARISH COUNCILLORS IF YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH CLERK OR ONE OF OUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

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The Parish Council business meeting of Monday 10th March 2025. Village Hall , Pye Corner, Gilston
8.00pm

PRESENT: Cllr's Beazley, Bryant, Harvey, Marx, Orson, Cllr Eric Buckmaster (CC), Cllr John Dunlop (DC), 2 members of the public. Christine Law (Clerk) in attendance.

Cllr Buckmaster and Cllr Dunlop's reports are attached to these minutes.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

This part of the meeting gives registered electors of the parish an opportunity to come and discuss any matters of importance within the community.

1. Litter Bin – Gilston Lane (adjacent to Cumberland Lodge). The council were informed that very morning the litter bin was removed by East Herts/North Herts waste department. This has been done with no consultation with the Parish Council. Cllr Dunlop and Cllr Buckmaster said that they would investigate on our behalf. The Clerk will e-mail them about the matter. The email if anyone else would like to email and complain is : wasteandrecycling@north-herts.gov.uk. *(Post meeting note – we have now heard from the council waste management department have now reconsidered and will be return the litter bin).*
2. Notice Board, Eastwick – The notice board in Eastwick one of the doors has broken off and we are in need of the carpenter to make us a new one. The Clerk will see if she can find someone that will be able to mend this for us.
3. Dusty Miller public house – enquiries were asked about what was happening to the pub as it does not seem to be open at the present time. Cllr Beazley said that he would make enquiries. *(Post meeting note has contacted McMullen Brewery about the matter and they advised that there are several large renovations that require attention and repair before they can look for a new tenant. He asked to be kept in the loop.)*

BUSINESS MEETING STARTED AT 8.30PM

85)APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

86)RECEIVE COUNCILLOR'S DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

a) None.

87)MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

a. The minutes of 13th January 2025 two items were missed off they are: -

- i. Within item 76 Knight Frank. A discussion has held about the tree work proposed to take place in Burnt Mill Lane. Cllr Beazley said Terlings Park MC had concerns with the tree cutting along their boundary, which they were discussing with the developers.
- ii. Cllr Dunlop's report included an item about the devolution of local government . A discussion on Local Government devolution and HCC & EHC's decision to not apply to be in the initial group was held.

Both these items will be added as an appendix to those minutes as draft copies have already been published.

- Minutes of the Parish Council Business Meeting of 13th January 2025 with the above as an appendix to the minutes. The minutes were signed by Cllr Bryant after they were proposed by Cllr Marx and seconded by Cllr Harvey.

88) ACCOUNTS

- a. Clerks report to the Council of accounts summary (appendix 1).
- b. Defibrillator – Village Hall & Terlings Park are in need of new pads etc. Cllr Bryant informed the council that these will need to be purchased within the next few months and the approximate price.
- c. New Homes Bonus – Cllr Orson informed the meeting that the interest that we receive from the CCLA investment is quite substantial and need to discuss further on what to do with the interest do we invest more which will give us more interest or ideas on what to spend it on. To be put on agenda for our next meeting for further discussion.
- d. VE Day – It is with regret due to not be able to find anyone to organise this event we are sorry to say that there will not be an event held in our villages. We are informed that are other events being held locally.

a-d proposed by Cllr Marx and seconded by Cllr Harvey.

89)PLANNING AND ASSOCIATED APPLICATIONS

- a. Grassland, Pye Corner, Gilston – 3/23/1110/FUL – Retrospective change of use of buildings A (Class e), B (class B8), c (Class B8), D (Class B8), E (Class B8) and F (Class E). Awaiting decision.
- b. The Old Rectory, Gilston – 3/24/0068/FUL – Installation of 100 ground mounted PV Cell Solar Panels on the paddocks to the north of the Old Rectory. Awaiting decision.
- c. 2-7 Kirkpatrick Place, Gilston – 3/24/2151/FUL – New application – Replacement of 6 number Juliet balcony's with new cantilever balcony's new balcony's to measurer 3.0m wide, 120mm deep, 1200mm high. Awaiting decision.
- d. 95 Pye Corner, Gilston – 3/23/2463/HH – Has been refused by planning but applicant has gone to appeal. Appeal has been dismissed 10.1.2025.
- e. Land Adj. to 66 Eastwick Road, Eastwick 24/00065/Refuse. The applicant has taken this to appeal. Appeal has been dismissed 10.2.2025.

90) PARISH PATHS

Cllr Orson reported:

Various works have been completed recently by HCC Rights of Way contractors:

- a. The alignment of the signs on footpaths 29 and 30 at Pye Corner have been corrected
- b. The alignment of the signpost on footpath 20 has been corrected to match the corrected route through the wood.

- c. The collapsed waymark posts on footpaths 3, 4, and 5 have been replaced.
- d. The vegetation encroaching on footpath 4 has been trimmed back by Knight Frank's contractors on behalf of Places for People.
- e. Cllr Orson was asked if the bench which is situated at the footpath on Eastwick Road could be moved as PfP have relocated the footpath.
- f. It was also asked as the Parish Council are still holding grant money for footpath benches could one be installed on footpath E20. This will be investigated.

91)COMMUNITY FORUM/ NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT

a. Cllr Bryant report is attached as appendix 2.

Neighbourhood Planning Group – The following information and purpose of the HEGNPG will be published onto our web site.

The Hunsdon, Eastwick, and Gilston Neighbourhood Plan Group (HEGNPG) plays a crucial role in shaping and overseeing the Gilston Area development, to ensure it aligns with community values and sustainable development principles. After successfully completing the award winning Gilston Area Neighbourhood Plan (GANP), the HEGNPG continues to jointly represent the two directly affected Parish Councils of Hunsdon and Eastwick & Gilston. It seeks to coordinate engagement with developers, Places for People and Taylor Wimpey, and local authorities especially East Herts Council.

The HEGNPG is involved in reviewing planning applications and master plans for the proposed villages, ensuring they meet the expectations of Local Plan policy and the GANP. Our primary goals are to advocate for high standards in urban design, proper and timely infrastructure, environmental responsibility and community-focused. We believe we have influenced the quality of green space and community land, promoted biodiversity and landscape integration, and continue to press for better interface with the existing communities, sustainable transport solutions, and “village master planning” principles where each village within the development retains distinct features. Additionally, we will actively monitor the agreements related to infrastructure, affordable housing, and the long-term governance of community. In summary, the HEGNPG acts as a voice for residents, holding developers accountable to promises for the delivery of a of sustainable, high-quality development that respects both local heritage and environmental goals. Through this active oversight, we aim to be the voice of the two directly affected Parish Councils and so keep the development aligned with community's hopes and aspirations and ensure it remains adaptable to future needs.

92)HIGHWAYS

A. Cllr Harvey reported the following:

1. Road works through Pye Corner towards High Wych have been completed .
2. Works are planned at the bridge to Fiddlers Brook .
3. Eastwick Hall Lane continues be ridden with holes and excess mud . Reports have been sent to highways and PFP . Some work is scheduled for March 17th.
4. I have not been given any information on Terlings Park . The meeting was informed that two of the street lamps within Terlings are not working. We believe this is a highways matter. Also part of the roads within Terlings still have not been adopted. This is work in progress.
5. Current works in Harlow and numerous diversions to A414 have contributed to regular congestion at the A414 roundabout by Eastwick Lodge Farm. This affects everyone in Eastwick and Gilston Parish and continues.
6. PfP seem to have completed their initial tree felling .
7. It remains difficult to track completion of reported works through the highways portal .
8. PFP have created a web site (gilston.info) to report fallen trees etc on roads and byways . This has yet to be advertised to the local inhabitants.

9. Fiddlers Brook wall – Gilston Lane. This matter still to be resolved.

10. Cllr Buckmaster informed the meeting that the following should be approved at cabinet on 17th March

Eastwick Hall Lane Local Carriageway Reconstruction 24 Eastwick 3U875/10 Eastwick Hall Lane A414 Eastwick Road To Eastwick Hall Farm NCM250245-1 CRC Apr25 - Mar26
- -

Pye Corner Local Carriageway Reconstruction 24 Gilston C161/8 Pye Corner 30mph Signs To Derestriction Signs CWY250189-1 CRC Apr25 - Mar26 - -

A414 Eastwick Road Carriageway Surface Dressing 24 Stanstead Abbots A414/836 Eastwick Road C15 Church Lane to start of Roydon Road Slip ARP240002-2 ASD Qtr-1 - -

A414 Eastwick Road Carriageway Surface Dressing 24 Eastwick A414/846 Eastwick Road U875 Eastwick Hall Lane to C15 Church Lane ARP240002-2 ASD Qtr-1 - -

A414 Eastwick Road Carriageway Surface Dressing 24 Eastwick A414/856 Eastwick Road Eastwick Lodge roundabout westwards to Eastwick Hall Lane ARP240002-2 ASD Qtr-1 - -

11. A discussion was had with Cllr Buckmaster about a possibility of 20mph speed restrictions on the sharp bends on Pye Corner within the 30mph limit. As this is a matter he is investigating he will keep us informed.

92 B. GILSTON VILLAGE ADDITIONAL SIGN

Cllr Bryant reported:

Potential project / expenditure of some of the New Homes Bonus (interest accrued and possibly small amount of capital).

Background

The village of Gilston is intersected by 2 through roads:

- C161 (also referred to as Pye Corner & Eastwick Road) running east - west
- Gilston Lane running north from Pye Corner

Entering the village of Gilston from the east and west, on the C161, are “village destination signs”, no sign informs anyone entering the village from the north, along Gilston Lane,

Locating a new GILSTON sign, near Church Cottages, would help establish the village as a defined entity before it is subsumed within the circle of new villages. Including the words “Please drive carefully” may help reduce the speed along the lane.

Plus the action that further cost implications required.

93) KNIGHT FRANK

Communication received from Joel Fayers:

As we have recently discussed, we will now be circulating a monthly update email to keep you informed with key matters relating to Gilston Villages 1-6. Naturally, the content of each email will be led by what has taken place over recent weeks and what is scheduled to be happening later in the month, so if there is a particular topic or area you would like a future email to focus on, please do let me know.

Planning update

- Judicial Review - We were delighted to announce the signing of Gilston’s Section 106 agreement earlier this year. The forecasted £6bn of economic impact demonstrates the scale of benefits this multi-tenure thriving community will deliver and our commitment to making a positive difference in the places we serve. PFP remains fully committed to Gilston - we have full confidence in the processes carried out.
- Thank you again to those who attended the Village 1 Masterplan Community Working Group 4 session and the public event in late January/early February. Copies of the materials that were on display and a summary interim report can be found [here](#).

- In terms of a high-level programme for the upcoming works, please find below a rough guide to anticipated timings as things stand. As you can imagine, these are subject to change, and we will of course keep you updated once we have more news. Once we are in a position to do so, we will look to produce a more in-depth programme as has been requested.

Activity	Approx. timings
SLMP submission	March 2025
V1MP submission	April 2025
CSC enabling works	Underway
V2MP, V5MP & V6MP workstreams begin	Later in 2025
CSC construction & associated works	2025 - 2029/30
V1 Reserved Matters Applications	TBC
First homes being built in Village 1	Circa 2028-2030

Estate comms website

- The new estate and construction comms website is now live - www.gilston.info. Thank you to those of you who have already used the platform.
- The purpose of the website is to allow updates to be provided to local residents about work being undertaken across the estate. At the same time, it will make reporting an issue or asking a question much easier through the pin-drop system. This generates an accurate What3Words reference which will speed up the time taken to identify the location of the issue.
- How to report an issue:
You are able to drop a pin on the location of the issue and provide a description of what you would like to report. Villages 1-6 are transparent in colour, whilst Village 7 (Taylor Wimpey) has been shaded yellow to differentiate the two sites. This will be your opportunity to flag issues without worrying if the land belongs to Places for People or Taylor Wimpey.
New pins will be marked as red and will be passed onto the corresponding team.
Issues that are in progress and are being investigated by the team will be marked in orange.
Once the team has resolved the issue, this will be marked as green.
- The website functions will evolve over time. If you have any suggested improvements or features you would like to see added, or would like a copy of the recorded session we held in February, please email gilston@meeting-place.uk.

Estate management

- Gilston Lane flooding - It is important to note that this is an historic problem whereby the road-side bank, which is the responsibility of Hertfordshire Highways, has subsided into the river. There is a lot of mature tree growth on the riverbank, as well as fly tipping which contributed to the recent flooding. The above factors combined resulted in reduced holding capacity of the river and therefore flooding post rainfall. In that instance, in effort to assist residents, PfP instructed contractors to remove the fly tipping debris and tree limbs which were obstructing the river course over a 200m length. This has already reportedly reduced the flow rate and local residents have acknowledged this. As I'm sure you can appreciate, PfP cannot be considered responsible for flooding which already exists in flood zones, but we will be taking steps in agreement with Hertfordshire County Council to ensure any future development doesn't make the issues worse. We understand that progress is being made on this behind the scenes at HCC, so hopefully a positive update from them will be provided in due course.
- Eastwick Hall Lane flooding - As you'll be aware, PfP has previously instructed a contractor to undertake ground works to improve drainage including ditch clearance, culvert clearance, dredging and digging out the spring to facilitate under road drainage. Subsequently, Herts County Council have had surveys carried out along the length of the lane to identify ineffective gullies and whether pipeline infrastructure is functional with a view to having all inadequate parts replaced. The team remain in conversation with Herts County Council and are awaiting an update on their proposal. Once we've heard back, we will of course be back in touch to advise on next steps and timings.

Additional vegetation clearance has taken place at Roseley Cottages and along the H5 footpath. Please see the attached document for photos of the work undertaken.

Gilston Stakeholder Liaison Group

- As the project evolves to the next stage, PfP would like to establish a liaison group with key local stakeholders. This will allow us to provide updates on estate management and planning matters at quarterly in-person meetings, outside of the EHDC Gilston Area Community Forum and masterplanning process.
- A copy of the Terms of Reference and the date of the first meeting will be circulated next week.

94)VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

- 1.A grant from East Herts for the supply of Golden Zumba and chair Pilates terminates in March .
- 2.The chair Pilates will continue as a regular self funding project as it has proven to be very popular .
- 3.A grant also from East Herts for heating management has been received and utilised to install a Hive system .
- 4.Meanwhile it is clear there have been cost benefits from the solar panels provided by money from East Herts. We received a cheque for over £600 last month in payment for energy sold back to the grid.
- 5.The hall electricity had its 5 yearly EICR check last month and this has been communicated to our insurers . The few small suggestions for update will be adopted this month.
- 6.There will be a fund raiser for the hall on May 2nd in the form of the usually very popular race night . A poster will go out for the next parish magazine and the various what's app groups.
- 7.No further planned improvements are scheduled for the coming year.

95) NEW WEB SITE

Cllr Orson read through his written report on the proposal of getting a new web site. His report states:

We are currently using ParishCouncil.net to host and support our Parish Council / Community website EastwickandGilston.org that was established in 2010 and currently costs £300 per annum plus VAT to run.

We are not demanding in terms of our support needs from ParishCouncil.net however whenever we have needed help in any way their response has been slow or required us to chase for a response.

This has been a major **problem with our recent attempts to set up an email box named for our Parish Clerk which is now a mandatory** requirement for the Parish Council to meet. ParishCouncil.net has failed to provide the necessary support despite several promises to do so and we have been unable to make progress. Consequently, we have looked for an alternative supplier.

The Parish Council already subscribes to Parish Online's digital mapping service, and they also offer Website Hosting, gov.uk domains and emails for Town, Community and Parish Councils. See <https://www.parish-online.co.uk/website> for details of website facilities and a live demo. The website hosting functions can include support for access and storage of our high-resolution aerial photographs. Please note that in addition to those standard functions shown on the live demo other standard functions include Village Hall Booking and Defibrillator locations map.

The subscription package includes:

- **Website** - a modern, accessible and responsive website using the Government design guidelines
- **Email** - up to 20 mailboxes with 5GB storage each which are accessed through the provided apps for windows, mac or phone, via webmail, or you can connect it to your own phone or computer mail apps.
- **Gov.uk domain** - we register your new gov.uk domain and pay the fees instead of you having to pay for it. The domain is owned by you, but we manage it.
- **Hosting** - the servers where your website live
- **Ongoing Maintenance and Upgrades** - we may have a slightly higher ongoing cost than other providers, but we invest in your service to make sure it's always the latest new features, security upgrades or updates to align to new legislation
- **SSL Certificate** - this keeps your site encrypted and safe for visitors

- **Content Migration** - we port over as much content from your current site as possible at no extra cost.
- **Accessibility** - our sites always follow the latest Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG). Our sites already conform to WCAG 2.2 AA which is a requirement from October 2024 onwards.
- **Support** - we have a bank of knowledge base articles available to help you with managing your website. We also provide email support.

The associated costs are:

- £315 plus vat per year for the website, email and domain service.
- £42 plus vat per year for Workplace for 1 user (needed to provide 10GB of data storage for our aerial photographs)
- Year 1 = £257 plus vat (£100 introductory discount will be applied for year 1)
- Year 2 and onward = £357 plus vat

The available new domain choices are:

- eastwickandgilstonparishcouncil.gov.uk
- eastwickandgilstonparish.gov.uk
- eastwickandgilston-pc.gov.uk

Conclusion

1. It is proposed that the Parish Council should change our website supplier to Parish Online from ParishCouncil.net. This will mean that the Parish Council has one supplier providing a supported solution that meets our current requirements with the following costs:
 - Year 1 = £257 plus vat (£100 introductory discount will be applied for year 1)
 - Year 2 and onward = £357 plus vat
2. That the new domain should be eastwickandgilstonparish.gov.uk

This will also provide the opportunity to review and update website content.

His proposal was proposed by Cllr Bryant and seconded by Cllr Marx.

97)CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Cllr Buckmaster report is attached to these minutes. He talked about the upcoming school places. Also about the work he is doing about reducing speed limits in places in Sawbridgeworth to 20mph. He was asked is something could be done about the 30mph speed limit through Pye Corner and reducing in places to 20mph. He will investigate.
- b. Cllr Dunlop report is attached to these minutes. He talked about the devolution of councils, which will not effect us at this present time. Also about the new bin collections, which the magazine editor will put in the upcoming village magazine. He also talked about the call for sites which can be read in his report attached.

98)ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN FOR INFORMATION ONLY.

- a. None.

99)ITEMS COUNCILLORS WOULD LIKE TO BE ADDED TO THE NEXT AGENDA.

None.

100) DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- a. Date of next meeting –
 - 12th May – Annual Meeting of the Council followed by business meeting (Cllr Orson will be absent). Cllr Bryant will chair the meeting.
 - 14th July – Council Meeting
 - 15th September – Council Meeting
 - 10th November – Council Meeting

Meeting closed at 9.55pm

Cllr Buckmaster and Cllr Dunlop's reports can be found on the web site with the minutes

Benefice of High Wych and Gilston with Eastwick
Church website: stjameshighwych.org.uk
Facebook: Gilston & Eastwick church's
For all recorded church services go to the Facebook page above.

MAY SERVICES 2025

4 TH May	3 rd Sunday of Easter	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	St James, High Wych
		9.30am	Breakfast followed at 10.00am Family Service	St James, High Wych
11 th May	4 th Sunday of Easter	9.30am	Holy Communion	St James, High Wych
		11.15am	Holy Communion	St Mary's, Gilston
		12.30pm	G&E PCC – APCM	St Mary's, Gilston
18 th May	5 th Sunday of Easter	9.30am	Holy Communion	St James, High Wych
		11.00am	High Wych PCC – APCM	St James, High Wych
24 th May	Saturday	12.00noon	Wedding of Figen & George Taylor	St Mary's, Gilston
		3.00pm	Wedding Blessing of Toni & Micheal Hennesy-Ling	St James, High Wych
25 th May	6 th Sunday of Easter	9.30am	Holy Communion	St James, High Wych
		11.15am	Holy Communion	St Botolph's, Eastwick
30 th May		2.30pm	Rivers Service	Rivers

Benefice churches will be open for private prayer. St James, open every day 9.00am to 4.00pm. An information notice is displayed outside the church. St Mary's open every day 8.00am to 4.00pm and for advice on opening of St. Botolph's for private prayer, please contact Rev. Alison Jackson.

PRIEST IN CHARGE: Rev'd Alison Jackson **01279 790145**
revajacksonhwge@outlook.com **07833 667707**

1 Dovedale, High Wych, Sawbridgeworth CM21 0DT

READER: Judith Denton, Path Cottage, High Wych Lane, CM21 0JP 01279 723714

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER: Cath Sharples 01279 600996

Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor (DSA) 01727 818107

HIGH WYCH PARISH

LAY LEADER OF WORSHIP: Jan Bellingham 01279 724247

CHURCH WARDENS:

Janet Bellingham 01279 724247

Sam Clark 07717542524

GILSTON WITH EASTWICK PARISH

CHURCH WARDENS:

Michael Shaw 01279 726792

We have a vacancy for a Church Warden

LAY LEADER OF WORSHIP / MISSION ENABLER:

Rosemary Davis 01279 419763

PCC SECRETARY:

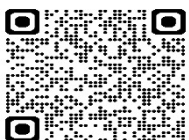
Mrs Christine Law 01279 411646

PCC TREASURER: Werner Marx marxwerner2@gmail.com

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2023 Aerial Photographs

In 2023 Aerial Photographs were taken of our lovely parish. These photographs can be viewed in the Photo Gallery on the website.



You can access the Photo Gallery by going to <http://www.eastwickandgilston.org.uk/gallery.php?id=24> or by scanning the QR code below.

In the Photo Gallery you will see that there are different galleries for different areas of the parish.

We are working on a way to enable people to easily download the photographs for personal use and will hopefully have more information to share on this soon.



MAY Letter

I've been asked a lot recently about baptisms. Baptisms of babies, children, young people and adults.

Baptism is also known by another word Christening – they mean the same thing really.

No one is too young or too old to be baptised/christened.

Baptism marks the beginning of your Christian journey. A journey of faith that will last your whole life long.

If your child is small they will need adults to make the vows on their behalf. These people are very special to your children and are called 'godparents'. To be a Godparent you have to have been baptised yourself. Either as a child or an adult. As a Godparent you are promising to help bring the child up to know the Christian faith. The Church of England recommends that you have 3 godparents, parents who are baptised can also act as Godparents for their own children.

If you are being asked to be a Godparent but are not baptised, or if you feel that you are ready to take that next step as an adult on your journey of faith, then we can help you explore the Christian faith as you find out more about what it means to be a Christian, no question is too silly or too small or too big to bring to the table to discuss.

It is my privilege and delight to christen/baptise anyone who is living in our community who would like to be. Over the past couple of years I have had the delight of baptising adults, children and babies. If you are an adult and were not baptised as a baby and want to explore what your own journey of faith could look like please give me a ring or drop me an e-mail so we can begin the conversation together.

My hope is that we can journey together discovering what faith could mean for you. You may/ or may not be very aware of God being present in your life ...God is. He has known you since before you were born and he would love you to get to know him better. Psalm 139 reassures us of this.....

Psalm 139:13-16

For you created my inmost being;

you knit me together in my mother's womb.

¹⁴ I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;

your works are wonderful,

I know that full well.

¹⁵ My frame was not hidden from you

when I was made in the secret place,

when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.

¹⁶ Your eyes saw my unformed body;

all the days ordained for me were written in your book

before one of them came to be.

I look forward to our conversation.

Every blessing

Your Priest

Rev Alison

GILSTON WITH EASTWICK PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL NOTICE OF ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

**THE APCM WILL BE HELD ON
SUNDAY 11TH MAY 2025 AT 12.30PM
ST MARY'S, GILSTON**

The APCM is held in two parts.
The first is the Annual Vestry Meeting in which the Churchwardens are elected also the Deanery Synod representative.

Residents present of the parishes may vote if they so wish.

The second part is the Annual Parochial Church Meeting

In this part only the residents that are on the church electoral role may vote.

For more information on this please contact Rosemary Davis the electoral Rolls Officer on: 01279 419763

The agenda for this part of the meeting is as follows:

1. Apologies
2. Minutes from previous APCM 2024
3. Matters Arising
4. Formal notification of independent examiners
5. Chair's Report
6. Treasurers' report and presentation of accounts
7. Churchwarden's Report
8. Mission Enabler Report
9. Safe-Guarding Officers Report
10. Deanery Synod Report
11. Election of PCC Members
12. Election of representative to the Deanery Synod
13. Election of one person to Eastwick and Gilston Village Hall Committee
14. Appointment of independent examiner to the PCC
15. Presentation of Electoral Roll
16. Any other business

Followed by a short PCC meeting to elect Church Officers.

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Nature Notes by the late Cynthia Howe, long-time nature lover and resident of Gilston

Sunday, 2 May 2010

Pigeon Problems

The pigeons are having a really bad time. A couple of weeks ago I wrote about their new nest. Within a week I found that nest deserted and three broken eggs on the bank – probably squirrels again. Not daunted by their run of bad luck, No Tail and his female partner are busy building a third nest on top of the last one. Within a short time I found another two eggs broken on the bank. They have left the mahonia now and although they are building again it is higher up. I wish them the best of luck – they have tried so hard for so long.

Tuesday, 4 May 2010

Of Blue Tits and Oak Leaves

There is much going on in the garden at present. For the last two days we have had a kestrel swooping down on our little feathered friends. I know the kestrel needs to eat, but I will be glad when it moves on.

Yesterday I spent a worrying few hours, when I thought the kestrel had taken the tit parents. I was so relieved when I spotted the pair; beaks full, entering their little home one after the other.

I have been worried about the blue tits finding enough food for their young as they chiefly feed on the caterpillars found on the oak leaves. Apparently the timing of blue tit young are tied to the appearance of oak leaves, but this year the hatchlings came slightly before the oak leaves, however the diligent parents managed to find tiny green caterpillars on all sorts of bushes and trees in the garden, and I also saw them taking beaks full of insects back to the nest. So, no doubt, the young are feeding and growing. As for the parents, they are gorging themselves on sunflower seeds, ground up peanuts and suet.

I have noticed the new leaves on the oak trees. They are just unfurling and are an olive green, very soft, and delicately shiny.

Amongst them are clusters of flowers hanging mossy yellow, green and brown in colour.

Thursday, 6 May 2010

Magnolias and Rhododendrons

The magnolias and rhododendrons have been magnificent this year. The first to bloom was the *M. Stellata* Alba. Even in the dark of evening the flowers seem to shine out and look outstanding when picked out by moonlight. This was quickly followed by *M. Leonard Messel*, another stellata, with an obviously star-shaped flower again, but in a beautiful mid-pink as they opened, fading to almost white, which made the tree very attractive as flowers of varying shades of pink covered it. While these two were still in bloom, *M. Susan* flowered, larger with a deep maroon on the outside of the petals and a much paler inside, All three were outclassed when *M. Soulangeana* was soon in full bloom. Despite being heavily pruned from time to time, this tree never disappoints. It is breathtaking and has thousands of cup-shaped pink flowers, with every petal fading from deep, deep pink at the base to pale pink at the tip. Last, but definitely not least, is *M. Ricki*. It looks like a *M. Stellata*, but like *M. Susan* has much larger flowers. *M. Ricki* is a very attractive magnolia, each petal shading from a reddish-purple at the base to palest pink at the tip.

Friday, 7 May 2010

May Happenings

Last year, across one side of the pond we placed silver birch branches, firstly, as an aid to wildlife drinking and bathing and secondly because I had read it keeps the water fresher. On looking in the pond today for tadpoles, I saw the carefully piled branches and logs now scattered all over the pond, due no doubt to over-ambitious ducks.

Yesterday a heron was standing beside the pond, but no sooner had he been spotted than he was off. Today, as I stood there I watched a spider on a log now floating in the middle of the pond. Just as I was thinking I ought to rescue him, he leapt off, and ran across the water to another log, then back on to the water and back to the first log.

It was fascinating to see the tiny indentations his feet made in the meniscus of the water – just denting, but never breaking the surface tension.

We have a dandelion and daisy spangled lawn, and our greatest pleasure is watching the beautiful yellow, black and white goldfinches with their red faces. They are such a stunning looking bird and they love the dandelion seeds, as do the mallards.

The female duck comes to feed sometime acting extremely stressed. I guess she has been hassled by the stray male mallards. If we are in the garden when they fly over, she will quickly hurry toward us for protection, and if we are in the lounge she will sit on the top step huddles against the patio door occasionally tapping the glass with her beak and turning her head slightly to one side, watching us. If she needs feeding she does not settle and her tapping becomes much more insistent. The quick moving squirrel really annoys her, and she only has to see him to stretch out her neck, point her beak in his direction, and hiss.

The roses are now in bud. The lilacs, berberis and apple blossom are all out. It is a good time to look out for shield bugs – they are about now, and so varied.

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THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY

www.hundredparishes.org.uk



A barn is essential for a working farm, to store produce, tools and machinery and to house livestock. The Hundred Parishes has many fine examples of ancient barns which are still in use today, albeit sometimes for a purpose not envisaged when they were built. Some have been converted into homes while others have quite varied new uses.

In 1994, Thorley church purchased a dilapidated 16th-century barn which, following restoration, opened for community use as St Barnabas Centre. At Duddenhoe End, the thatched Hamlet Church started life as a barn.

Ashdon and Westmill village halls both began life as barns in the 17th century.

Great Bardfield and Great Saling each have an ancient barn that has been converted into a retail outlet with café, respectively The Blue Egg and Timbers.

In Chrishall, the Red Cow pub offers accommodation in the adjacent 500-year-old thatched barn.

In Little Easton, the Countess of Warwick converted one of her barns into the Barn Theatre. It was used by many famous performers of the early 1900s and still occasionally serves that purpose, on other days being part of a tea room and events venue called Little Easton Manor.

In Great Bardfield, a Grade-I listed, 16th-century brick barn at Great Lodge now serves as the Anne of Cleves Barn wedding venue.

In Widdington, Grade I-listed Priors Hall Barn is a fine example of a medieval barn, dating from the 14th century and now owned by English Heritage. It is said that 400 oak trees were used in its construction. The large doors on either side could be opened for threshing, with the draught blowing the husks away from the grain. Priors Hall Barn is free to visit, open at weekends from April to September.

Ken McDonald, Secretary

Newsletter from your Patients' Group – May 2025

Email: patientgroup4sawbosurgery@gmail.com



If you are unable to see this Newsletter, or the attachments within it, clearly on your phone or tablet, you can also find it on the Surgery's website, halfway down the Home Page.

In your Patients' Group Newsletter this month:

- Your Patient Group Annual Meeting – ****Change of Date****
- Bank Holiday Closures
- Men's Health
- Domestic Violence or Abuse

****Your Annual Patient Group Meeting: The original date has had to be changed and it will now be held in the Memorial Hall on Thursday 22nd May at 19.00.****

One of the GPs from Central Surgery will come to speak to us about new projects in the Locality. He will also explain more about the roles of the different clinicians within the Practice.



May Bank Holiday Closures: There will be TWO Bank Holidays in May, the first will be on Monday 5th May and the second will be on Monday 26th May. We expect the Surgery and Pharmacy closures to be as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Surgery</u>	<u>Bell Pharmacy</u>	<u>Village Pharmacy</u>
<u>Friday 2nd May</u>	Normal Surgery Hours from 08:30	Normal Opening 09:00 – 18:00	Normal Opening 09:00 – 18:00
<u>Saturday 3rd May</u>	Closed	Normal Opening 09:00 – 13:00	Normal Opening 09:00 – 17:00
<u>Sunday 4th May</u>	Closed	Closed	Closed
<u>Monday 5th May</u>	Closed	Closed	Closed
<u>Tuesday 7th May</u>	Normal Surgery Hours from 08:30	Normal Opening 09:00 – 18:00	Normal Opening 09:00 – 18:00

<u>Date</u>	<u>Surgery</u>	<u>Bell Pharmacy</u>	<u>Village Pharmacy</u>
<u>Friday 23rd May</u>	Normal Surgery Hours from 08:30	Normal Opening 09:00 – 18:00	Normal Opening 09:00 – 18:00
<u>Saturday 24th May</u>	Closed	Normal Opening 09:00 – 13:00	Normal Opening 09:00 – 17:00
<u>Sunday 25th May</u>	Closed	Closed	Closed
<u>Monday 26th May</u>	Closed	Closed	Closed
<u>Tuesday 27th May</u>	Normal Surgery Hours from 08:30	Normal Opening 09:00 – 18:00	Normal Opening 09:00 – 18:00

Men's Health: MAN v FAT FOOTBALL

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How it Works: MAN v FAT Football is for men with a BMI of 27.50 or over. Over 90% of players lose weight and get fitter, why not join them from just £35 a month!

.....Cont.



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- Harlow Town Football Club, Elizabeth Way, Harlow, CM19 5BE Monday | 20:00-22:00
- Grange Paddocks Leisure Centre, Rye Street, Bishop's Stortford Bishop's Stortford, CM23 2HH Thursday | 19:00-20:00
- <https://www.manvfatfootball.org/> or call 0345 163 0042 for more information.



Mens' Health 2: Men's Shed Hatfield Heath: is a space in the heart of the village for men to get together, take part in practical projects, socialise and help combat social isolation. It is also an opportunity to learn new skills, share existing ones, make new friends and share interests with like-minded people. It is an opportunity to get involved in community projects too. For more information email: hatfieldheathmensshed@gmail.com or call 07968 066015



Domestic violence or abuse can happen to anyone.

If it's happening to you, it's important to tell someone and remember you are not alone.



Domestic violence or abuse can happen to anyone. Find out how to recognise the signs and where to get help:

Getting help for domestic violence and abuse - NHS [Getting help for domestic violence and abuse - NHS](#)

Domestic violence, also called domestic abuse, includes physical, emotional and sexual abuse in couple relationships or between family members.

Domestic abuse is not always directed at women. Men can be victims too and it is important that they can also access help.

Getting help and support for domestic violence: You do not have to wait for an emergency situation to find help. If domestic abuse is happening to you, it's important to tell someone and remember

you're not alone.

Information: You can also find [help and support for domestic abuse on GOV.UK](#).

Other ways to get support: Women can call [The Freephone National Domestic Abuse Helpline, run by Refuge](#) on [0808 2000 247](tel:08082000247) for free at any time, day or night. The staff will offer confidential, non-judgemental information and support. Talk to a doctor, health visitor or midwife

Men can call Respect Men's Advice Line on [0808 8010 327](tel:08088010327) (Monday to Friday 10am to 8pm), or visit the webchat at [Men's Advice Line](#) (Wednesday 10am to 11:30am and 2pm to 4pm) for non-judgemental information and support. Men can also call [ManKind](#) on [0182 3334 244](tel:01823334244) (Monday to Friday, 10am to 4pm)

If you identify as LGBT+ you can call [Galop](#) on [0800 999 5428](tel:08009995428) for emotional and practical support.

JIMMY'S
Baby & Toddler Group

Every Thursday morning
From 9.30am to 11.30am
at High Wych Memorial Hall
(term time only)

Healthy snacks will be provided

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For childminders: £2 per child



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3. REPORT ONLINE?
Has a crime already happened and you want to report it? Report online: www.herts.police.uk

4. LIVE CHAT / CALL 101
Do you want to share some information with us or speak to someone specific? Use live chat, otherwise call 101.

5. CALL 999
Is it an emergency? Is a crime happening right now, or is a life or property at risk? Call 999.

HELP US TO HELP YOU
SCAN THIS CODE TO GET ONLINE QUICKLY


WHEN USING OUR PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY PLEASE BE AWARE

Please make sure your dogs are under control and if not on leads in your sight.

Always clean up your dog's poo because it can cause illness in people, livestock and wildlife

Never leave bags of dog poo around, even if you intend to pick them up later.

Deodorised bags and containers can make bags of dog poo easier to carry. If you cannot find a public waste bin, you should take it home and use your own bin.



PLEASE clean up after your dog



Run by the churches of High Wych & Gilston with Eastwick
On the first Wednesday of every month
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Wednesday
Welcome
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Over 55's Welcome for tea, coffee, and cake.
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2-32 Mabeys walk, High Wych
CM21 0HN

For more information contact:
revajacksonhwge@outlook.com
07833667707
or: 01279 790145

Electric Bill Charges



Are you struggling with your energy bills?

If you live in Sawbridgeworth, High Wych, Gilston, Eastwick or Spellbrook and your financial situation meets the criteria, you may be eligible for assistance from **The Sawbridgeworth Charitable Trust**.

For more information, please contact our clerk:
Di Kitson on 01279 723212 or email: diana.kitson@btinternet.com



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The Sawbridgeworth Trust exists for those who are often finding themselves in financial difficulties by way of perhaps not meeting all bills that come in on a regular basis.

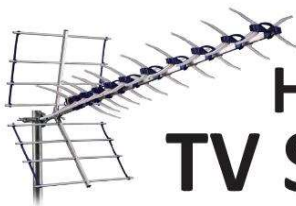
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The charity covers those living in Sawbridgeworth, High wych, Gilston, Eastwick and Allens Green.

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Mrs Di Kitson
11 The Forbury, Sawbridgeworth CM21 9BD
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We will do crafting, singing, listen to a story then eat some yummy food together, what could be better.



For further information please contact: revajacksonhwge@outlook.com
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We have four defibrillators within our two villages and they can be found at:

Gilston & Eastwick Village Hall, Pye Corner – CM20 2RB

Can be found on the outside at the front of the building by the notice board.



The Lion Public House, Eastwick – CM20 2QP

Can be found in the covered area to the right of the pub courtyard.

St Mary's Church, Gilston Lane, Gilston – CM20 2RJ

Can be found in the porch as you enter the church on the right-hand side.

Terlings Park, Kirkpatrick Place – CM20 2FX

Can be found outside of the entrance gates beside the intercom.

The defibrillator is designed to be very easy to use and talks you through what you need to do step by step.

If you are in the unfortunate position of needing to use it you simply

Phone 999

You will be given the code to open the cabinet and then supported by the Emergency Services.

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THE EASTWICK AND GILSTON PARISH MAGAZINE MONTHLY DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES IS THE 16TH OF EACH MONTH – TO BE SENT TO IN A WORD DOCUMENT:
christine.law2@btinternet.com

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Race Night

In aid of

***Eastwick & Gilston Village Hall**

****Friday 2nd May 2025****

****Doors Open 19.00 – Kitchen Closes 21.30
races 20.00-22.00**

Village Hall

**Fyc Corner, Gilston
CM202BB**

Adults £6 Children free

Please book your seats via
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Please pay at the door

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High Wych, Gilston & Eastwick churches
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Murder at the Old Turkey Cock

A Murder Mystery evening set in a Hunsdon pub in the 1940's
as an affectionate tribute in honour of the
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at
High Wych Memorial Hall

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Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm start

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Community Dog Walk With Cream Tea

St. Mary's, Gilston

Saturday 31st May - 2:30pm

Meet by the church.

Followed by a cream tea from
4.00 pm.

All welcome
(Dogs not essential)

Children must be accompanied
by an adult

for more information contact:
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07833667707 or 01279 790145



VILLAGE CREAM TEA ST MARY'S CHURCH

4.00PM.

**THE CREAM TEAS WILL BE £3.00 PER PERSON.
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