

# WELCOME TO METFIELD

We hope you find the following information useful.

## **METFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**

The Parish Council has 9 councillors who meet every 2 months in the village hall. Residents are welcome to attend these meetings and hear about village matters and planning applications.

If you require help or information you can contact the councillors listed below or the Clerk, Mrs Lindsey Duckett, Hunters Lane Cottage, Tel: 01379 586218.

Email: [MetfieldParishCouncil@outlook.com](mailto:MetfieldParishCouncil@outlook.com).

Mr Peter Mortimer, Chairman 01986 785396  
Mr Terry Godbold  
Mr Peter Schwier  
Mr Peter Twiss  
Mrs Debbie Fowler

Dr Chris Osborne  
Mrs Cecilia Pryce  
Mrs Jillian Dowsett  
Mr Paul Smith

Meetings are held every 2 months (usually on a Monday evening) in the village hall and all residents are welcome to attend. Please see the notice board outside of the village hall for the latest Agenda.

Meeting dates for 2020: 13 Jan, 9 March, 20 April (Annual Parish Meeting), 18 May, 13 July, 14 Sept, 9 Nov.

Information can also be found on the village website at [metfieldsuffolk.com](http://metfieldsuffolk.com)

## **DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Mid Suffolk District Council, Endeavour House, Ipswich.

Local office: 54 Ipswich St, Stowmarket.

Tel: Customer Service line 0300 1234000

Email: [customerservice@csduk.com](mailto:customerservice@csduk.com)

## **REFUSE COLLECTION – Mondays (alternating rubbish and recycling)**

The majority of bins are collected on a Monday, but some outlying properties may have a different collect day – please check at [Mid Suffolk waste services](#) if you don't live within the immediate village boundary. There is a Recycling Centre at Brome, near Eye. Items for recycling are accepted free of charge but a small fee is liable on general rubbish. This is privately run and times can be found on their [website](#).

## **POLICE**

There is a Safer Neighbourhood Team serving our area, consisting of Police Officers and Police Community Support Officers. For non-urgent calls ring 101. For general enquiries ring 01986 835300 or in emergency ring 999.

## **DOCTORS' SURGERIES**

There is a doctors' surgery in Harleston and one in Fressingfield, both of which serve Metfield.

The Surgery, Bullock Fair Close, Harleston. Tel: 01379 853217

Fressingfield Medical Centre, New Street, Fressingfield. Tel: 01379 586227

## **DENTIST**

Bupa Dental Care, 24/26 Redenhall Rd, Harleston. Tel: 01379 854466

There are also dental surgeries in Halesworth and Eye.

## **VETERINARY SERVICES**

These are available in Harleston, tel: 01379 852146 and Bungay, tel: 01986 892771.

## **PARISH CHURCH of St John the Baptist**

Services are normally at 9.30am each Sunday.

*Rector:* Rev. Susan Loxton

The Rectory, Doctors Lane, Stradbroke, IP21 5HU.

Tel: 01379 388493 email: revsusan@gmail.com

*Church Warden:* Mrs Judy Game. Tel: 01379 588017

Members of the Parochial Church Council are

Susan Loxton

Judy Game

Gordon Lindsey

Lorraine McEvoy

Beryl Martin

Gail Chilcot

Kathy Smith (*Treasurer*)

Details of services, church and village events are published in the *Six Sense* magazine, produced monthly and distributed to all the 6 parishes served by our Rector.

## **OTHER DENOMINATIONS**

There are Methodist Chapels in Fressingfield and Harleston, United Reform and Catholic Churches in Harleston and a Baptist Chapel in Fressingfield.

## **SCHOOLS**

Fressingfield Primary School for children aged 5 to 11 years and a nursery class for under 5s. The school is served by a school bus from Metfield, but the bus must be paid for. Contact Suffolk County Council for current charges. [Home to school and college travel](#)

Mendham Primary School.

Secondary pupils can attend a High School in Stradbroke or Framlingham. Also served by a bus.

## **BORDER HOPPER**

This is a 'dial-a-ride' service with a pick-up from your door to take you to doctors/dentists/hairdressers/train station etc.

To use the service, you need to become a member (see below). Fares are priced according to distance travelled. This can be to doctors' appointments, hairdressers or to visit relatives or friends.

Membership fees are £6 for 6 months or £10 for 12 months.

Some outings are arranged for members throughout the year, for example pub lunches, seaside, boat trips, shopping etc.

For details and to book ring 01379 854800, giving at least 24 hours' notice.

Office hours: 8.30am–5pm Monday to Friday

or go to their website at <http://www.borderhopper.org>.

## **BSEVC – Community Bus Service for Mid Suffolk**

This can be booked for social events, day centres, shopping, connecting to public transport etc. For more information phone 01449 614271.

Website: <http://www.bsevc.co.uk> Email: [bookings@bsevc.co.uk](mailto:bookings@bsevc.co.uk).

## **LIBRARY**

The Saxmundham Mobile Library van calls at Metfield Church every 4 weeks, on Friday mornings 10.15–10.45 am.

The dates for 2019 are 25 Jan, 22 Feb, 22 Mar, April – no visit, 17 May, 14 Jun, 12 Jul, 9 Aug, 6 Sep, 4 Oct, 1 Nov, 29 Nov, 27 Dec.

There are also branch libraries at Halesworth and Bungay (Suffolk) and Harleston (Norfolk).

## **METFIELD STORES**

This is a community-run shop staffed by volunteers and a part-time manager.

<i>Opening hours:</i>	Monday to Friday	8am to 5pm
	Saturday	8.30am to 2pm
	Sunday	10am to 12.30pm
	Bank Holidays	10.00 am to 12noon

Volunteers are always needed. Call in to the shop or phone 01379 586204 if you are interested.

The shop sells newspapers, groceries, delicatessen foods, locally produced meats, fruit and vegetables, bread and cakes cooked on the premises.

There is a library of books to swap, donate or just to take and enjoy, and many leaflets about local attractions and services for you to read while you enjoy a cup of coffee or tea and a cake!

## **VILLAGE HALL**

Our Village Hall is an important place to meet with neighbours and friends at the variety of events held during the year. The well-stocked and equipped community bar in the Meadow Room is usually open Friday and Saturdays 7–11pm. A board outside the village hall advertises the current evening's event. Events include quiz nights, bingo and live music. Volunteers are always needed and welcome to join the bar team, please speak to anyone behind the bar if you would like to get involved.

Regular classes are held in the hall and a craft group meets on Monday afternoons. There is also a Tots and Toys session on a Tuesday morning. See the notice board or *Six Sense* for full details.

The hall and/or Meadow Room are available for private hire. Details from Eve Peck 01379 586432.

Website: [metfieldvillagehall.co.uk](http://metfieldvillagehall.co.uk).

## **VILLAGE MARKET**

First Saturday in the month 9am–12noon. Village Hall. For details ring Eve Peck 01379 586432 or Lorraine 01379 586307.

## **FAMILY MILLENNIUM WOOD**

This wood was founded and planted in 2000 on land adjacent to Metfield airfield. There is free access to this wood, which is a pleasant walk from the village.

Winks Meadow – owned and maintained by Suffolk Wildlife Trust – is nearby. Rare orchids can be seen in spring.

## **METFIELD UNITED CHARITIES**

Metfield residents benefit from two Registered Charitable Funds administered by six volunteer Trustees.

One fund owns the Christmas Lane allotments and some agricultural lands. The Trustees contribute financially when help is needed by parishioners in cases of sickness, long-term illness or hospitalisation, as well as with travelling costs to hospitals and the supply of fuel, clothing and other necessities.

The other fund is an Educational Foundation providing grants to university students, apprentices and people in further and higher education. Contributions are also made for school outings and residential courses for Metfield children at local schools.

The Trustees welcome enquiries from anyone seeking an allotment, needing some financial help, an educational grant or even having thoughts of becoming a Trustee. (Also see Allotments below).

All enquiries are received in strict confidence. In the first instance please contact the Clerk at [metfieldunitedcharities@gmail.com](mailto:metfieldunitedcharities@gmail.com)

## **ALLOTMENTS**

Situated on Christmas Lane, the allotment land is owned by Metfield Charities and run by Metfield Association of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners. As well as individual plots, there is a Community Orchard and social area where events are held regularly.

For more details contact Metfield Charities 01379 586386.

## **GROUPS AND ORGANISATIONS THAT MEET IN METFIELD**

### MENDHAM AND METFIELD WI

A small friendly group with a wide age range covering Mendham, Metfield and Withersdale. We meet on the **first Tuesday in each month** at various venues. The meetings usually have a speaker or demonstrator. Annual outing, an occasional meal out or theatre visit and summer evening ramble.

New members are always welcome, for further information contact Mrs Christine Christian (01379 853977)

### CARPET BOWLS CLUB

**Mondays** 7.15–9pm for novice and experienced players. The club meets between September and the end of May in the village hall. For details please contact Eve Peck 01379 586432.

### YOGA

**Thursdays** 1.30–3 pm for all ages and abilities. Contact Angela Sheffield on 01986 782227.

**Fridays**      *Chair Yoga*    9.15–10.15am  
                  *Gentle yoga*    10.30–11.30am      Contact Rosie Wright on 07791257915.

### BELL RINGING

Practices are held on **Tuesday evenings**.

### TOTS AND TOYS GROUP

**Tuesdays** 9.30am–11.30am in the village hall. Please drop in.

### FRIENDS' CAFÉ

**Last Tuesday of each month** 12noon–3pm in the Village Hall. This is a lunch time meeting open to all ages.

### KNIT AND NATTER

**Mondays** 2–4pm An informal gathering for crafts.

## **LOCAL CONNECTIONS**

There is a useful website called Nextdoor ([nextdoor.co.uk](http://nextdoor.co.uk)), which can be set to cover Metfield and the surrounding villages. Locals use this to advertise services/events and to sell/give away unwanted items. Also used to get recommendations for tradesmen and to find lost cats and dogs.

## **VILLAGE WEBSITE**

Most of the above information – and lots more! – can be found on the Metfield Village website at [metfieldsuffolk.com](http://metfieldsuffolk.com). Here you can find places to stay, where to shop, local services, what's on, history of the village shop and St John the Baptist Church, books by local authors, photographs of the village and links to other relevant sites.

To contact the website email [metfieldweb@gmail.com](mailto:metfieldweb@gmail.com). You can also follow the blog to get news of village events.