

## Annual report of Bedfield Parish Council

21 May 2025

I am pleased to present this report for Bedfield for the year ending April 2025.

Our village is growing with a number of new homes nearing completion and we look forward to welcoming new residents to Bedfield in due course.

It is hoped that the Tannington Road flood issues have now been resolved but of course, we won't know that, until it rains. Thanks to Councillor Martin Abley for being the point of contact for this issue.

The Clubs and groups making use of the Community Hub facilities go from strength to strength and their reports can be found on the [Bedfield website](#) in the Community Club section. These include:

Care Café  
Craft Club  
Football Club  
Gardening Club  
Tennis Club  
Our Club

The Parish is very fortunate to have such a wide variety of activities on offer. Most recently the Tennis Court has been refurbished and it's looking great. The Parish Council is grateful to the Tennis Club for its contribution to the cost.

The Friends of Bedfield Heritage organised an Open Gardens event in June which engaged many gardeners in creating beautiful plots and providing visitors from far and wide with amazing spaces to enjoy, and there was cake! The event helped the Friends to raise funds for the now permitted compostable toilet at the Church. There were also a number of events organised by the Church and the Friends to celebrate the festive season in December with the added bonus of a real tree put up by a number of volunteers.

The Community Club improvement plans have been delayed due to our architect having personal issues. However, the Committee have still been making improvements to your Hub; new, silent, thermostatically controlled heaters have been purchased and installed, with positive feedback from users about how efficient they are.

An additional marquee has been purchased to add to the fleet but this has pushed the available storage space to its limit.

Everyone knows you can never have enough storage. To remedy that issue the Club has purchased an almost new, storage container.

Thanks to Councillor Hicks for helping the Club with this expenditure and to the Bedfield Town Estate Trust giving us permission to install the container in place of the old storage shed.

The Trust is extremely supportive of the work of the Community Club and special thanks go to Rebecca Waterman at the Trust who has been beavering away to ensure the lease for the Playing Field land can soon be signed for another seven year period.

To raise funds for these improvements the Community Club organised a number of social events including the annual village Fete. These included:

A Pub and Pizza night in June 2024, a successful Fete in July, a pub and Chilli evening in October, a Pub and Nibble event in December and a Pub and Street Food evening in February.

The food evenings proved very popular demonstrating the need for more space in the main room which we hope can be achieved with the long term improvement plans.

The Play Area is still going strong and enjoyed by toddlers and older children and their families.

My thanks to Councillors, for the work they have undertaken to support the community during the year and also to our Clerk Geoff Robinson for the important back office work that takes place.

The Parish Council (PC) works hard to keep all residents informed using the website: [bedfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://bedfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk) Note the new address.

My thanks to Lisa Crane for her work on an almost daily basis uploading Parish Council information and Community event news. She has also established new ways of communicating for example, through Facebook. The Bedfield and Monk Soham Newsletter is also successful, and I encourage everyone to make use of it by both subscribing **and** sending articles for publication.

[bedfieldmonksoham@btinternet.com](mailto:bedfieldmonksoham@btinternet.com)

I am aware that there are residents who do not have access to the internet, so newsletters and PC information is regularly available on the village and Community HUB noticeboards.

Finally, my thanks go to the many individuals, groups and organisations that support the community.

Here's to a successful 2025/26.