

GREENING GLEMSFORD

Glemsford Parish Council's working group for Climate and Nature

Update 14th January 2025

Hedgehog-friendly Gardens Project

The Parish Council has signed up as a 'Wilder Together' village within the Stour Valley area. Following several hedgehog-related events, including a hedgehog mapping survey, the working group plans to support villagers who would like their gardens to become places hedgehogs would like to visit!

The bonus is those gardens will attract more pollinators, invertebrates, birds and amphibians, and that is absolutely crucial in these times of species decline due to habitat loss.

Members of the working group will be starting the project in February. If you would like your garden to be included, please contact Lesli (details below).

Glemsford Village Hall Solar Panels

The Parish Council was approved funding from Babergh District Council in December 2024 and Greenscape Energy were contracted to fit around 70 solar panels on the village hall roof, with battery storage inside the hall. With approval received from the DNO (Distribution Network Operator - ours is UK Power Networks, East) the work will hopefully be completed by the end of February, if not before. It's an excellent start to 2025; the hall will be able to generate its own electricity, ultimately reducing running costs and reducing carbon emissions too.

Advice on keeping your home warm in winter

Members of the working group are once again available to visit your home, by appointment, for a free of charge thermal imaging survey using our Flir camera. This can pinpoint areas needing improved insulation and we can suggest inexpensive ways to stop that warmth escaping!

See contact details below.

St Mary's Churchyard wild area

This project is being managed by two members of the working group. If you haven't visited yet, look for the roped-off area which has recently been extended (with permission from the PCC - Parochial Church Council) to include a large yew tree and the hedgehog/invertebrate patch.

Over winter it appears little is happening, but thanks to one member's dedication a largish area has been cleared and raked to remove the dead thatch in preparation for more yellow rattle planting, and snake's head fritillary bulbs were planted before Christmas.

There are plans to introduce more of the plant species which have declined in number, or vanished completely, over the years since a Suffolk Wildlife Trust survey of churchyard flora was carried out in 1993. The trail camera trap has shown roe and muntjac deer using the area.

Community Litter Picks

The next village litter pick will be held on Sunday 23rd March, starting at 10am from Glemsford Village Hall. Litter pickers, bags and hi-vis tabards will be provided.

Cllr Lesli Tunbridge

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