

Glensford Parish Council working group for Climate and Nature Report October 2024

Wilder Together and Hedgehog Highways

On Tuesday 17th September, Emma Black, Countryside Project Officer for Dedham Vale National Landscape and Stour Valley gave a very informative presentation on the Wilder Together Villages project and how to set up Hedgehog Highways in Glensford. More information about Wilder Together in the Stour Valley can be found on the Parish Council website and on the small Noticeboard in the Village Hall entrance porch. We have already started mapping sightings of hedgehogs in the village, so the next stage is to select one of those areas to develop hedgehog-friendly gardens which are linked with hog-sized holes in/under boundary fences. Hedgehogs can travel up to a mile each night, searching for food or, at certain times of the year, for a mate. Garden Highways help to keep them off the roads - a squashed hog is a sad sight, as they are an endangered species in England.

To expand this project we need people power! If you live in **Weavers Drive** and would like to help set up the first Hedgehog Highway in the village please get in touch (see contact details below).

Village Hall Renewable Energy

The Parish Council project to put solar panels on the village hall roof, plus battery storage, has had a successful funding offer of £10,000 from the Babergh Rural Communities Fund. In order to reach the quoted cost of the project at around £38,000 ex VAT (which includes battery storage) the Council is in the process of bidding for additional funding from Babergh Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).

Our newly-extended village hall hosts a number of regular users and a range of activities, as well as special events and entertainment.

Community litter pick

This was held on Sunday 29th September, with HiVis tabards, bags and litter pickers provided.

Thanks to 20 volunteers, including two children, 24 full bags of rubbish were collected. Babergh District Council kindly sent a bin lorry the following day to clear the bags away from the village hall car park.

As always, large amounts of rubbish were found along the access roads into the village which suggests many items are thrown from cars.

Within the village there was an increase in unbagged dog poo and cigarette ends. If you see a dog owner or smoker behaving in an antisocial way, please let a member of the Parish Council know where and when. We will endeavour to put up posters at 'hotspots'!

Cllr Lesli Tunbridge
greeninglemsford@btinternet.com / 07952 706858