

# East Boldre *and beyond* e-newsletter

01 September 2025

Hello Everyone

This month's newsletter includes some local news and another plea for help to get the village hall ready before the refurbishment starts. There is also the usual monthly police report in our Neighbourhood Watch section. Please don't forget to send in your notices and advertise your events in this free newsletter. And please tell your friends about it or forward a copy to them. They can request a copy on the village website using the link above.

## East Boldre Village Hall Refurbishment **\*\*Getting the Hall Ready for Refurbishment\*\***

East Boldre Village Hall Clear-Out

We're clearing the hall for building works due to begin this autumn.

### **CAN YOU PLEASE HELP?**

- Can you sell unwanted items of value on eBay?
- Do you have any packing materials?
- Do you have a van or trailer or pick-up truck to help move items to a local off-site storage location?

We're also looking for volunteers to help with carpentry and decorating.

If you can help, please contact [michaelupton100@btinternet.com](mailto:michaelupton100@btinternet.com).

## East Boldre Parish Council – July Meeting Highlights

The Council met on 8 July 2025, chaired by Cllr Beverley Hawker. Key updates included:

- District Council report: Community Grants and CIL applications are open until 8 August. NFDC's Local Government Reorganisation survey (closing 27 July) is seeking feedback on future authority structures—residents are encouraged to take part. Concerns remain over Phase 1 of the new waste collection rollout, with calls for improvements before Phase 2 begins.
- Planning: No objections to 25/00725CONS (The Old School House).
- Finance: June accounts approved; HSBC £5 monthly fee removed.
- Clerk recruitment: Vacancy advertised,
- Community updates:
  - Speedwatch sessions continue; Bike Marking event on 20 August at the Village Shop.
  - Allotment site in good condition but plots available.
  - Handy Trust visited to engage with village children—feedback pending.
  - Scarecrow Trail was a big success, attracting visitors across the New Forest and raising significant funds.
- Next meeting: 9 September 2025, 7:00pm, Village Hall.

Allotment plots now available.



From one big plot to four manageable ones!

The plot in the picture used to be a single allotment plot, but we've now divided it into 4 easy-to-manage plots — perfect for anyone who's been thinking about starting their own little growing space.

Plots start from just £46.41 for a whole year!

Why get an allotment plot?

- Grow your own fresh fruit and vegetables
- Spend more time outdoors and enjoy nature
- Save money on fresh produce
- Meet like-minded people and be part of a community
- Great for physical and mental wellbeing

If you're interested in claiming a plot, get in touch today — they won't be around for long! [clerk@eastboldre-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@eastboldre-pc.gov.uk)

Many thanks

Helen Symmons, PSLCC  
Locum Parish Clerk & RFO  
[clerk@eastboldre-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@eastboldre-pc.gov.uk)  
07562 985631

East Boldre Parish Council  
PO BOX 389  
SO41 1BG

## Coffee Morning at East Boldre Village Hall

Coffee morning is at the new time of 10:30 – 12:00 every second Saturday of the month. The next Coffee Morning is Saturday 13 September.

Cakes, Coffee, Tea, squash for a donation.

Come and chat, meet up, books and puzzles available.  
Please come and support. Warm welcome to all.

## Services at Beaulieu, Exbury and East Boldre Churches

For full details of Church Services at Beaulieu, Exbury and East Boldre, [go to the Beaulieu Churches website](#).

### Items For Sale

This new section was suggested by one of our readers. If you have something you want to get rid of or give away, or maybe there is something you are looking for, you can advertise it for free in this newsletter. Just e-mail the details to [web.manager@eastboldre.org](mailto:web.manager@eastboldre.org).

10% of proceeds goes towards the Village Hall fundraising.

#### EDWARDIAN ERA BABY'S CRIB AND STAND

**£30**



76 cm wide x 50 cm deep x 106 cm high

Painted white

#### IKEA BILLY BOOKCASE x 2

**£5 each**



40 cm wide x 28 cm deep x 106cm high

Two available, very pale oak with  
adjustable shelves

#### EXERCISE BIKE (adjustable)

**£10**



Approx 80 cm wide x 48 cm deep x 112 cm high

Ultrasport with Hand Pulse Sensors

Buyer collect, or could deliver locally

Phone or text 07715 297741 to view and for more information

## An Article from Action Hampshire

Action Hampshire is a local infrastructure charity that supports communities and VCSE's (voluntary, community and social enterprise) groups across the county.

### Is your Parish meeting local housing needs?

Many rural communities are facing a quiet crisis. Local people - those who grew up in the village, work nearby, or have family ties, are increasingly unable to find homes they can afford. Without action, rural communities risk losing the very people who keep them thriving.

Action Hampshire is a local charity who provides Rural Housing Enabling (RHE) services to support communities and parish councils to deliver the homes needed in their community. RHEs act as an independent advisor providing impartial assistance in developing affordable and community led housing for people with a local connection and will work with and on behalf of rural communities to address the shortage of affordable homes within the parish - homes specifically for local people who are priced out of the general housing market.

These homes can be for rent or sale, and eligibility for occupancy is based on a strong local connection, such as living in the parish currently, having previously lived there with family still in the area or working locally in essential roles (e.g. teachers, shopkeepers, farm workers).

### Why it matters

Hampshire has a serious housing affordability gap. Property prices are high, while wages are below average, in 2023, the median house price was **10 times** the average wage.

This forces many households to leave their communities, which can lead to:

- Closure of local services like pubs, shops, and schools
- Loss of community diversity and sustainability
- Limited turnover in existing affordable housing stock

Unlike general housing developments, rural affordable housing built on rural exception sites is reserved for people with a local connection - helping villages retain their identity and support their services. Rural Exception Sites are small plots of land just outside or adjacent to village boundaries that are permitted as exceptions to standard planning rules because they meet a proven local need. These sites can accommodate small-scale housing developments (typically 4–10 homes) which are retained in perpetuity for occupancy by local people.

### What can you do?

Even if you're not directly affected, you can help raise awareness and encourage local action:

1. **Speak to your Parish Council** Ask them to contact Action Hampshire to **request a free Parish Housing Profile**. This provides an overview of the current housing situation in your area.
2. **Support a Housing Need Survey** This survey identifies the type and amount of housing needed locally. It provides evidence to help communities make informed decisions and may encourage landowners to offer land for development. These are usually commissioned by your Parish Council and can be carried out by Action Hampshire.
3. **Know a local Landowner?** If you know someone with land near the village, they might be interested in offering it as a Rural Exception Site. Landowners receive a fixed payment per property built but they will also be supporting their local community. Ask them to get in touch with Action Hampshire

Affordable housing is about more than bricks and mortar - it's about keeping building sustainable communities that will thrive for generations to come. Contact Action Hampshire [housing@actionhampshire.org](mailto:housing@actionhampshire.org) or find out more by visiting [www.actionhampshire.org.uk](http://www.actionhampshire.org.uk)

## Neighbourhood Watch

### The Lunchtime Fraud Quiz

The Police send a lot of messages to warn you about fraud and to advise you on how to avoid it. Now is your chance to put all your knowledge to the test (and maybe learn something new too). Take the five-minute fraud quiz on <https://stopthinkfraudquiz.enough.campaign.gov.uk/quiz>

### Local Beat Report

Hello and welcome to the August 2025 Beat Report for the New Forest Heart area. Your team is PC 24901 Mark ROBERTS and PCSO 14495 Richard WILLIAMS.

In September we will be at the Lyndhurst Parish Council Offices at the back of the Community Centre on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> at midday and on 6<sup>th</sup> September we will be at the Ashurst Village Fete also from midday. This year the fete is being held in the Colbury Memorial Hall on Main Road, SO40 7EL and the Ashurst and Colbury Neighbourhood Watch team will be there too so if you have any questions for us come and say hello.

Our next Walking in Partnership Beat Surgery will be at 6pm on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September at the Reptile Centre off the A35 just outside Lyndhurst. The post code is SO43 7GR and the What3Words are conductor.dignify.stung .

It's a beautiful area and the walk should be one to remember. Again, Forestry England will be hosting the walk which is aimed at encouraging solo walkers and those people who don't feel comfortable walking alone to spend time in the Forest in a safe and relaxed setting. The New Forest Heart Police team holds several Beat Surgeries every month and our Walking in Partnership events are another opportunity to ask us about Policing in your area and they give us the chance to share with you the latest safety and crime prevention advice. If you want more information, please email [richard.williams@hampshire.police.uk](mailto:richard.williams@hampshire.police.uk)

On Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September join us at the Bramshaw Village Stores at 8am, and at 9am outside the Post Office in Bartley, and on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> we will be at the East Boldre Village shop on Chaple Lane at 3pm.



Finally on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September we will be offering security bike marking at the Pass the PEDALL festival at New Park, Brockenhurst. The day is described as a one-day fundraising community event all about cycling for everyone, regardless of ability. We will be on site from 10.30 so hopefully we will see you there. Again, if you want any more information email PCSO Williams.

Our Beat Surgeries last for 30 minutes, unless demand is high of course, but as we always say if you can't come to any of these meetings you can always call or email us, but to report a crime or any anti-social behaviour dial 101 or go the Hampshire and IOW Police website. Of course, if it's an emergency always call 999.

This month has seen a slight rise in the number of sheds, garages and outbuildings that have been broken into. Ten properties in all have been targeted in Bartley, Woodlands, Winsor, Stoney Cross, by the Setthorns campsite, Brockenhurst and East Boldre. The usual items have been stolen. The sawmill in Bartley has also been targeted this month on two separate occasions.

Other thefts in August include several inflatable boats, tenders, outboards and dinghies from the Marina at Bucklers Hard in Beaulieu. Investigations into all of those thefts are well underway and we hope to have some good news for you soon. Eight shopliftings have been reported to us in August, seven of them from the Co Op in Brockenhurst and one from the shop at Ocknell campsite.

Two honesty boxes were also targeted in Winsor this month, with money and goods stolen.

There have been 12 thefts from vehicles in the New Forest Heart area in August – two were vans that was broken into while parked on driveways in Winsor and Bartley while four cars were broken into on the same night in East Boldre. The other cars broken into were parked in James Hill, Shepherds Gutter, Brock Hill, Holmsley and Pipers Wait car park in the Forest. All of those vehicles had left bags and valuables on display so please remember to take all of your valuables with you whenever you leave your vehicle unattended and don't hide anything in the boot because you never know who is watching.

Three expensive bicycles were stolen in August. One was taken from a driveway in Brockenhurst and two worth £4,000 each were stolen from the bicycle rack outside a hotel on the outskirts of Brockenhurst. They were locked to the rack but the thieves still took them. Please use this link to get some excellent advice on how to keep your bikes safe <https://orlo.uk/oxU0b> .

Also in August, attempts were made to steal two golf buggies from the course at Bramshaw, the tips jar was taken from a pub in the same village and a generator was stolen from Copythorne.

Your local Police team are:

[richard.williams@hampshire.police.uk](mailto:richard.williams@hampshire.police.uk) 07554 775469

[mark.roberts.24091@hampshire.police.uk](mailto:mark.roberts.24091@hampshire.police.uk) 07392 314340

## Dates for your Diary

### **Music at Beaulieu**

Tickets for all concerts except Glyndebourne can be bought online.

It is possible to buy tickets directly from the Ticket Office by calling 07770 859900 and on the day at the door, if the concerts are not sold out and subject to availability.

### **Beaulieu and District Gardening Club**

Membership is £10 per annum. Membership secretary Lynne Hubbard 01590 612408. Visitors to talks £4.

\* \* \*

9 September

10am to 12.00, Beaulieu and District Gardening Club visit to Chichester Nurseries, Exbury.

13 September

Music at Beaulieu presents Nova Clarinet Quintet

9 October

7.30pm, Beaulieu Village Hall. Beaulieu and District Gardening Club - A talk by Bryan Madders on Dahlias

1 November

Music at Beaulieu presents The King of Instruments (Organ)

6 November

6.30pm, Beaulieu and District Gardening Club Annual General Meeting, Beaulieu Village Hall, followed by refreshments.

6 December

Music at Beaulieu presents New Forest Choirs

\* \* \*

If you have not received this newsletter before and you think that it contains helpful information, please forward it to your friends. The more people who use it and contribute to it, the better it will be. By subscribing to this free community newsletter, you will always know what's going on in the village and you will receive important Neighbourhood Watch information without delay.

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