

## **Chair's Report CSM AGM MAY 2026**

Kathryn Martin organised a Suffolk Day Fete on Blacksmith's Field in June. Thanks to all the help given by the members of the Social Club and Villagers and with the addition of beautiful weather, it was a great success.

The Parish Council have continued to allocate CIL money to benefit the village. Money has been used to pay for new School Flashing Signs to help to slow traffic during school times. It is unfortunate that the sign on the green opposite the Village Hall has been out of action since October, but the Manufacturers are investigating the problem and it is hoped to have it up and running very soon. CIL money also paid for the school play area to be resurfaced and the Village Sign to be replenished by The Forge at Barking plus a new post and surround. The Parish Council also allocated CIL money to have the speed limit from Creting Bottoms changed to 30mph. Unfortunately we have been told this is not possible, but we are able to submit an application for the speed to be 40 miles per hour to the existing 30 mph limit. A new notice board has also been installed at Alder Meadows. Two bollards have been put at the entrance to Blacksmith's Field as a preventative measure.

Despite having had work carried out at the entrance to Dunches Lane, the lane remains impassable during most of the year due to flooding. The cause is under investigation and we also approached Suffolk County Council and Highways to have the lane usage changed to a bridleway. Unfortunately we have been told this is not an option but it may be possible to have a Traffic Regulation Order preventing cars using the lane and this will be investigated further.

William Barns continues to oversee the maintenance of Lilly's Wood.

Once again the Firework Night was a huge success and was well organised by the Social Club. The fireworks were a combination of no noise, low noise and noise to take into account that as a village we are surrounded by fields with wild life, live stock and also our family pets. On the whole this was well received.