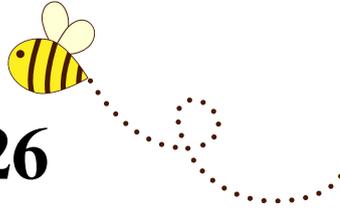


Welcome to the

FERNWOOD GAZETTE

February Update 2026



It feels like an age ago that the Parish Council were planning for our Christmas events at the village hall, yet here we are in the New Year. A huge thank you to everyone who joined us over the festive period for markets, carols and a visit from Santa. And thanks to the village hall team who work tirelessly over the festive period to make it special. We will be back next year with even more events for all the family but please feel free to share any feedback.

As we move into 2026, there's a lot of projects and plans in discussion. We are currently working through budgets for the next financial year and setting priorities, including precept calculations. We are planning to move to the next stage of the village hall redevelopment, reviewing sports provisions in the village and plan to undertake works in Costall Woods to protect the wildlife. We're also looking to add in more planters around the village, which were signed off last year. If you keep your eyes peeled you'll start to see some of the bulbs planted by councillors appearing in the coming months!

We've also been very busy reviewing several major planning applications including for a new Tesco, Costa, and additional drive-thru facilities near the business park. Plus, an additional 390 homes near the Claypole junctions. You can read more about these applications later in the Gazette.

We've also got lots of great events coming up, craft market in May with activities and music, our summer family event, coffee mornings, the return of the Fernwood Safari & an even bigger Christmas in 2026! As always these will be advertised online and in the Gazette so be sure to keep an eye out.



In this issue

Parish Council Update
Fernwood Community Church
Residents Survey
Upcoming Events
Planning Application
District Council update
County Council update
Advertisements

Contact us

Address: Fernwood Parish
Council, Fernwood Village
Hall, Ruby's Avenue,
Fernwood, NG24 3RS

Email:
office@fernwood-pc.co.uk
Telephone: 01636 613024

PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

Office opening times:

Monday - Friday

10am – 1pm

Fernwood Parish Council, Fernwood Village Hall, Rubys Avenue, Fernwood, NG24 3RS

Email: office@fernwood-pc.co.uk

Telephone: 01636 613024

A message from: Councillor Misson

Looking back on 2025 it has been a busy year. The biggest thing we have done is deliver a new play park; after putting forward the two viable options in the spring and receiving your feedback, it was built during the summer and after some teething issues it opened in the autumn. The hub is now starting to establish itself, with 2 long term users who regularly hire; we will be having a full launch in the spring when you'll be able to see what it has to offer. In the spring necessary safety work was carried out on the trees in Costal Woods based on tree survey. The contractor cleared the area of over growing brambles for safety reasons but this means the trees are able to gain more from the ground. Since then, a working group has reviewed the area and a scheme will be bought forward that will enhance the natural habitats and improve the woods for the community. During the next few months we are also going to enhance the village hall so that it offers a new room that can be hired, a second kitchen, better storage space and taking on feedback from hirers we will improve lighting and the audio facilities.



Our meetings

Councillors meet most months to discuss issues raised by residents, planning & strategy. These meetings are published online beforehand. Residents are welcome at the first 15 minutes for open discussion, to raise any concerns or ask any questions regarding the agenda. Our minutes and agendas are posted online, as well as on our noticeboards which are on the side of the village hall and on Goldstraw Lane, opposite the clock tower.

Upcoming meeting details:

Council meeting

Monday 16th February

Monday 16th March

Monday 20th April

Residents are always welcome to come into the parish council office in the village hall if they have any queries.

You can also follow our Facebook page for regular updates on the Council's work.



WHAT'S ON

FERNWOOD VILLAGE HALL

www.facebook.com/village.hall.fernwood/



MONDAY

9:30 - 10:30
Peaceful Possums
Yoga

11:45 - 13:15
Sit, Get Fit, Get
Healthy

17:30-19:30
Tae kwon-do

20:00-21:00
Zumba

TUESDAY

10:00- 12:00
Coffee Group &
Knit and Natter

18:00-19:00
Newark Karate
Academy

19:30-21:00
Fernwood Amateur
Dramatics

WEDNESDAY

10:30 - 11:30
Equinox Tai Chi

14:00 - 16:00
U3A Ukelele Group

17:30 - 18:30
Blossoms

19:30 - 21:30
Fernwood Ladies
Choir

19:30 - 21:30
(3rd Wednesday of
the Month)
Women's Institute

THURSDAY

9:30-11:30
Baby& Toddlers Group

14:00-15:30
Moving Together

19:00 - 19:45
Move with Char

FRIDAY

9:30-12:10
Caterpillar
Music

14:30 - 16:00
U3A Astronomy
Group
(1st Friday of
the month)

17:30 - 18:30
Blossoms

18:30 - 19:15
Dog Days

SATURDAY

09:30-11:30
Studio 29 Musical
Theatre

SUNDAY

10:30- 13:00
Fernwood Community
Church

For contact details of group organisers, please visit:

www.fernwood-pc.co.uk/community/fernwood-parish-council-13053/regular-events/



CHRISTMAS RECAP

A huge thank you to everyone who joined us over the festive period in Fernwood. It feels like a long time ago but Christmas 2025 was another brilliant showing of community spirit. We had a jam packed event scheduled at the village hall and it was great to see so many residents come together. The return of Fernwood community Christmas was a great success with musical performances from the Fernwood Ladies Choir & Newark Town Band, a very busy Santa's grotto and the incredibly popular snow globe in the garden. We were also joined by excellent suppliers at our craft market which will be back again later in the year. Please do get in touch if you are interested in having a stall and keep an eye on socials for more soon!

A big thank you to the staff at the village Hall who made Christmas such a success once again. A huge amount of effort goes into planning the community event and we are looking forward to making it even bigger next year. If you have any feedback, please do reach out and let us know.



UPCOMING EVENTS

2026

Markets

May Market

Saturday 30th May

Join us for a special May Day craft market, with local sellers. There'll also be live music, free kids crafts and bouncy castle in the garden of the village hall.

Christmas Market

Saturday 5th December

Festive goods from local suppliers including crafts and food. The perfect chance to get a special gift!

Street Food Vans

Keep an eye on social media for a full list of street food attending the village hall. We have a great selection of suppliers, from Greek food, pizza and deserts!

Summer Fun Day

Saturday 25th July

Market / Summer Event

Back again at the village hall. There'll be music, bouncy castles and food stalls. Plus lots of free activities for all the family and the scarecrow competition!

Fernwood Safari

Saturday 19th September

Music & activities at the hall plus set up your own stall outside your home for a clear out & declutter!

Community Christmas

Sunday 13th December

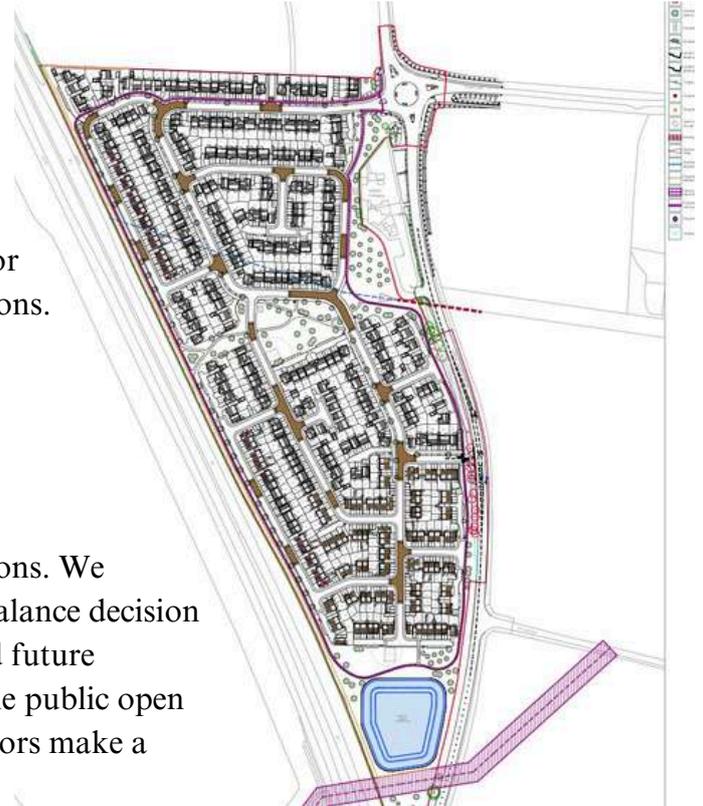
Join us for carols, brass band & a visit from Santa in his grotto! Free activities for the whole family.

PLANNING APPLICATION

Plans were shared a few months ago regarding a new proposed Tesco supermarket, Costa and a unidentified restaurant for Fernwood. Alongside this we also received notice of a planning application for 390 homes off the Great North Road near the A1. These applications have been available for public comment online on the main planning portal. These applications take a huge amount of time to review for the office staff and Parish Councillors, so we can ensure we've thoroughly reviewed all of the information provided and considered all potential impacts on residents. This also includes meeting developers where possible to find out more information.

All four of these applications were discussed in detail during our January meeting. As a result of detailed conversations regarding highways, safety, impact on the local area and ecological information and hearing the concerns and feedback of residents, the Parish Council voted to object to all applications. We thank residents for joining us and giving valuable insight into these discussions. The Parish Council feedback will be available online for review as soon as possible.

It is worth noting that the Parish Council can only act as a consultee during planning applications and have no actual authority to approve or decline applications. We review all the information available and try to make a balance decision that best serves all residents. Please do feel free to attend future meetings and share any comments or concerns during the public open forum section of the meeting; it really does help councillors make a balanced decision to hear feedback from residents.



FERNWOOD CENTRAL RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Committee members are all busy at the moment responding to a Government questionnaire on “reducing the prevalence of private estate management arrangements”. It is basically asking for views about “unadopted amenities” within Central Fernwood and how residents must pay for their maintenance. The questionnaire runs to 155 questions of which we need to answer 105. We have put the questionnaire on our web site with a link from the home page on www.myfernwood.org as well as our response to the Government on your behalf. You are all welcome to comment to the Government upon the survey and how to do that is also shown.

We all appreciate the trees and woodland within central Fernwood. They do however need to be maintained, so surveys on their health are undertaken every 3 years by trained arboriculturalists to determine what work must be done. From cutting out potentially dangerous rotten branches to removing some that have died. The most urgent work took place last year but this work will continue over the next 2 years with our on site team undertaking some of the work and tree pruning specialists working on the more substantial trees. New trees will be planted in their place but not necessarily in the same position. All this doesn't come cheaply, totalling nearly £80,000 over 3 years, with last years work being paid for from our reserves.

We regularly liaise with FirstPort and Barratt David Wilson Homes on matters that affect people living in Central Fernwood. Deeds of Variation are often encountered by those buying and selling houses and we have pressed for this process to be simplified and the cost reduced. We also successfully pressed for late fees to not be charged due to the lateness and confusion over bills. We expect to be scrutinising invoices for works and services, once FirstPort provide them!

You are welcome to attend our meetings which are usually held the last Wednesday of the month in the Village Hall with the agenda posted on our noticeboard and on our web site. We can be contacted at Fernwoodra@duck.com



Jerry Green
DOG RESCUE

Fernwood Charity Shop

Official Opening 16th February - 10am

📍 **Unit 6 Fernwood Park, Balderton, Newark, NG24 3RQ**

with Parish Councillor David Mack for ribbon-cutting ceremony, puppaccinos, a visit from Rusty the mascot, and more!



ICE & GRIT

This winter was particularly cold and icy in the village which led to icy road conditions, particularly one some of the bends in and out of the village. As a result there were several comments on ice and grit from residents online and at our meeting.

Whilst the roads are a County Council responsibility, the Parish Council do keep several grit boxes around the village which are well stocked. These are available for all residents to use - you just need to take your shovel or spade to use them. There is a full list of their locations on our website for reference. They are checked often but if you spot any running low please do let the clerk know.

DISTRICT COUNCIL UPDATE



Cllr Neil Allen
Neil.allen@newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk

Cllr Simon Haynes
Simon.haynes@newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk

Cllr Jack Kellas
Jack.kellas@newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk

Dear resident,

We are pleased to be writing to you again in the latest edition of the Fernwood Gazette, and the first of 2026. Let us take this opportunity to wish you a Happy New(ish) Year – if we haven't seen you already – and all the best for a successful 2026.

Anti-Social Behaviour

At recent meetings of Fernwood Parish Council residents have raised concerns with us about anti-social behaviour (ASB). We know that tackling ASB is a priority for residents in Fernwood, and it is our priority as your district councillors. Indeed, we have worked hard since our election to promote the importance of reporting ASB to Newark and Sherwood District Council whenever it is witnessed. Following recent discussions with residents, we have worked with council officers to assess the data the council has on incidents of ASB. We have also walked the village with the council's community protection officers who respond to incidents of ASB and highlighted known hotspots and routes of evasion. We have worked with officers to ensure that residents living in properties near to hotspots have received letters to inform them of the importance of reporting ASB. On top of this, we have requested ASB resource for the village including mobile CCTV; however, unfortunately, this request has been declined due to the lack of reports or evidence of ASB received by the District Council.

As such, last year we worked with officers to launch a report it campaign within the village, with new posters placed around the village, in the Village Hall and OneStop to encourage the reporting of ASB. Whilst we have tried, we cannot get the Council to inject resource to tackle ASB in Fernwood if residents do not report incidents to prove there is a problem. It is worth noting that last summer the Council's officers went on visits with the Police to issue warning letters to those identified as committing ASB, with no reports of incidents involving said individuals since then. This does demonstrate the importance of reporting ASB so that it can be tackled. Included within this Gazette is a copy of the ASB report it poster for your information.

A1 Overbridge Widening

We have recently spoken to residents who have queried progress relating to the widening of the A1 overbridge. We raised this at a recent Cabinet meeting where it was acknowledged that this project is the highest priority highway improvement for CIL funding. We have subsequently met with the appropriate Director at the District Council and understand that the Council is currently waiting for correspondence from National Highways before they can assess next steps. Please be assured that we are continuing to stress the importance residents place on this infrastructure project, and that we will continue to highlight residents' views on this important matter.

Local Government Reorganisation Consultation

At the beginning of February, the Government launched its statutory consultation on Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) in Nottinghamshire. This consultation is your chance to tell Government what you think of the options proposed for a shake up of our local government structure. It is important to note that the Government will not host a referendum on options, so this consultation is your opportunity to put your views across, and you have until 26 March 2026 to do so.

As ever, if we can be of any assistance to you, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Jack, Simon and Neil

REPORT IT!



Do you care about FERNWOOD? Do you want it to be a nice, safe, quiet place to live? So do we!

If you see a crime, anti-social behaviour, or a nuisance occurring, we ask you to report it to the appropriate authority.

For a crime in progress or an emergency, ring: **999**

To report a crime or nuisance, call the Police on: **101**

Environmental Nuisance or Anti-Social Behaviour
Newark and Sherwood District Council, ring during normal office hours: **01636 650000**

REPORT IT!

CAMPAIGN



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
POLICE
PROUD TO SERVE

FERNWOOD COMMUNITY CHURCH UPDATE

Ever feel like something's missing?

Purpose, peace, freedom, acceptance, truth, joy – UK-wide polling shows that you're not the only one who longs for one or more of these! But what if we could find more than just a fleeting experience of these things? What if we could find all that we long for in one place or person? And not just for a moment, but a true filling of the emptiness? What if there is more!?

As Christians, as a church, we believe there is. We find all we need and the real answer to everything we long for, in Jesus Christ. He is God's Son who came into this world to save sinners – that's you and us all in our need and brokenness. At Fernwood Community Church, we meet to learn and grow together in love and obedience to Jesus, who knows our need and shows us the way.

During March, we'll be reaching out into Fernwood and surrounding area, just as hundreds of churches across the UK will do in their areas, to also share this hope and life we can find in Jesus. You may see us out on various occasions, or you can join our Sunday morning services (10:30am each week at Fernwood Village Hall) where we'll focus on the stories about Jesus that show us how he gives us purpose, hope, love, joy, life. Will you come and find out more? You'll be very warmly welcomed!

**Ever feel like
something's
missing?**

Find the purpose you're looking for.
Find life in Jesus.
findlifeinjesus.org





**FERNWOOD COMMUNITY
CHURCH**

Church Activities

All welcome!

Sunday Services

10:30am
Including Sunday School

6pm
Each week except 1st of the month

**Explore The Truth That
Makes The Difference**

See web for details of more activities
fernwoodchurch.org.uk

Facebook.com/fernwoodchurch
hello@fernwoodchurch.org.uk

Still Smiling

10:15am
2nd & 4th Tuesday each month.

Babies & Toddlers

Thursdays 9.30-11:30am



EASTER FUN DAY

Join us for some egg-cellent family fun!
**Help us raise money for our Charity of the Year,
the Children's Bereavement Centre.**

**Sunday 29th
March 2026**

10

**10:00 AM to 2:00 PM
Fernwood Village, Newark
NG24 3UA**

WE WOULD LOVE FOR YOU TO COME AND JOIN US

**Easter Egg Trail | Tombola | Easter Bonnet and Egg Competitions
Cakes and Coffee | Name the Bunny | Plus more Games and Prizes!**

northmidlandscharitycommittee@barratthomes.co.uk

VILLAGE HALL PLANS

Over the last three years there have been many positive changes at the village hall, many of which funded using Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). As the village continues to grow, more changes are planned in 2026 to stay competitive with other private hire spaces and meet the villages needs now and in the future. This includes potentially upgrading our sound and lighting systems, new advertising screens and looking at a more long-term staging solution for groups. We are also continuing to look at plans to convert the changing rooms into additional storage and meeting space; something we have been in dire need of for considerable time due to how busy we are with bookings. The village hall continues to be well booked and is incredibly busy with groups, parties and private bookings but please reach out if you are looking to hire the space. Any changes will be documented in formal minute meetings but the office team are also happy to answer any questions or take on board any feedback.



MAT PILATES CLASS

Build core strength, improve posture, and increase flexibility in this gentle, guided class.

Ideal for all fitness levels—no experience needed!

THURSDAY EVENINGS @ 7:00PM - 7:45PM

FERNWOOD VILLAGE HALL

£7 A SESSION

BRING YOUR OWN MAT

CONTACT - MOVEWCHAR@GMAIL.COM

BUDGETS

In our January meeting, the council walked through the budget for the coming year. This included a detailed review of all spending in 2025, reviewing all income [like the village hall hire] and all Community Infrastructure Levy spending on projects like the play park. This is one of the most important things we do as a council - it gives us an idea of how much money we need to deliver for the coming year. It also helps us to work out the potential ask of precept from Nottinghamshire County Council.

Whilst we did experience some unexpected costs - things like tree works which we legally have to complete - we were pleased with the accounts and spending in 2025. Last year, the precept figure requested from the Parish Council led to no increases to residents. We have not yet calculated our precept request for the coming year but this will be done in a public meeting and shared with residents as soon as possible.

Peaceful Possums Yoga

Yoga poses & games



breath exercises



experienced teachers



singing & stories



relaxation & mindfulness



Toddler Family Yoga



Pay-a-you-go & block bookings

Mondays | 9.30am-10.30am
Fernwood Village Hall
For 18 Months - 5 Years



Kids Yoga Club

For Year 1 - Year 6

Tuesdays | 4pm-5pm

The London rd Congregational Church Hall, Newark



Build strength & coordination

Be active

Learn relaxation skills

Build confidence

Improve concentration

Learn self-regulation skills

Be creative

Be playful

Come join the fun!

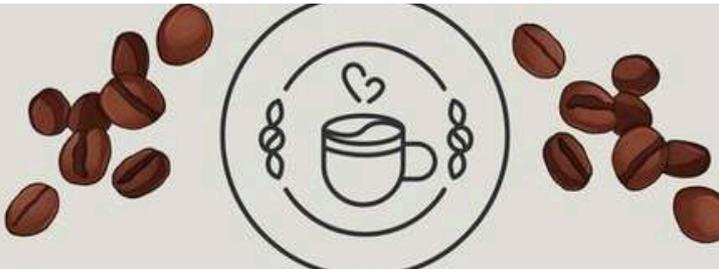
www.peacefulpossumsyoga.co.uk



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Everyone is welcome



Fernwood
Parish Council



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- Fernwood Village Hall, Rubys Avenue, NG24 3RS
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www.movingtogether.co.uk/book-online

MOVING TOGETHER
CREATIVE DANCE COMPANY

County Councillor Update

As we begin a new year, I want to wish everyone in Fernwood a very happy New Year. I hope the months ahead bring good health, stability & progress for you and your families.

The next 12 months will be busy ones for Fernwood. A significant number of developments are coming forward and that inevitably brings added pressure on our roads, junctions, pavements & local infrastructure. As your elected member, my priority is to ensure that residents' voices are heard clearly & early particularly on highways, traffic flow & safety.

There is also some positive news. We are currently expecting the Southern Link Road A46 to open around September. However, it is worth noting that each section of the project has come forward roughly three months earlier than anticipated at every stage so far. On that basis, I am cautiously optimistic that we could see an opening during the summer. I will continue to monitor progress closely and keep residents updated as soon as firm dates are confirmed.

I will continue to work directly with residents to make sure their views are properly reflected in highways bids & grant applications & to push for practical solutions to the issues people raise with me. This work has been made more difficult by decisions taken by the controlling group at the County Council, including spending £75,000 on flags rather than investing that money into road repairs that residents rightly expect.

Despite these challenges, I am working with councils at district, county & national level to ensure that the views of Fernwood residents are represented at every level of government. Fernwood should not be an afterthought, & I will not allow it to be treated as one.

For those who do not know me, I am your elected County Councillor & I remain fully committed to representing you. I am still here, still listening, & still working hard on your behalf.

Councillor John Lee



Offering one off, weekly and fortnightly cleans in your area.

Providing eco friendly products, a DBS checked team along with a guaranteed clean and 100% satisfaction, with prices starting from £25 we're the cleaning company you've been looking for.

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T: 01636 337227





The Tawny Owl



EASTER EGG HUNT & *Crafts Morning*



Friday 3rd April

🕒 10:00am – 12:00 noon

Join us for a fun-filled Easter morning! Children will:



Create their own Easter egg hunt bag



Design a personalised Easter card



Craft their own cute Easter rabbits



Finish with an exciting Easter egg hunt full of yummy treats



£10 per child

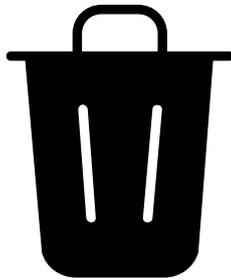
**Limited spaces
available**

Book Now Call 01636 703765

LITTER PICKS

We spoke with residents at our last meeting about litter picks and rubbish around the village. The Parish Council organise several litter picks a year for residents to attend and supply all of the equipment needed including pickers and bags. We haven't had the best attendance from residents recently but will continue to organise a few more in 2026.

Residents can also drop into the hall during opening hours to borrow pickers and bags. Keep an eye on social media for more information about upcoming litter picks!



The WI isn't all about making jam and singing Jerusalem

...although some of us can make darn good jam!

At WI we try to offer a diverse range of activities, learning, and a being a powerful voice for change for all women.

We try to focus on making friendships, learning new skills, being part of the local community and campaigning on issues like health, environment, and social justice.



We meet...

7:30 very 3rd Wednesday of the month

At:
Fernwood Village Hall
Ruby's Avenue,
NG24 3RS

Contact us via

Facebook:
Newark Fountain WI at Fernwood
Or
Instagram:

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



Made in the UK

Designed by Alison Hamilton

Come along and see what we're all about!

Newark Fountain Women's Institute @ Fernwood

Making
sense...
of your bottom line.

CIMA
Practising Certificate Holder



SAVIOUR
ACCOUNTING

Our Mission

To add value to your business & contribute to your success from our base in Fernwood, Newark. We provide accountancy services for Small & Medium companies, Charities, and Personal Clients. With over 25 years experience we pride ourselves on providing a personal service.



Accounting

Bespoke analysis and submission of Limited Company Accounts to HMRC for Corporation Tax purposes



Bookkeeping

Experts in number crunching we provide both ad hoc & regular services to sole traders and limited companies.



Compliance

Maintaining your companies secretarial duties to inform Companies House of any in house changes



01636 558605



Email : peter@saviouraccounting.co.uk
Web: <https://www.saviouraccounting.co.uk>
Facebook: @saviouraccounting.co.uk

MEET YOUR LOCAL ESTATE AGENT



WHO WE ARE

Established in 2024, we are located in Long Bennington, providing unparalleled marketing and services for clients looking to sell or rent their properties. Each of our homes features professional photography and videography, including drone shots. Our team personally visits every home prior to its launch, and we strive to conduct every viewing ourselves.

OUR MISSION

To successfully sell or rent each property while surpassing client expectations.

OUR VALUE

Professional & honest advice whilst building long-term relationships through integrity, trust & transparency

OUR VISION

To raise the standard of marketing & service whilst maintaining our values and achieving our mission

01400 221100

stuart@benningtons.co.uk

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- ✓ CONVERSIONS
- ✓ PERGOLAS
- ✓ GAZEBOS
- ✓ TIMBER FRAME



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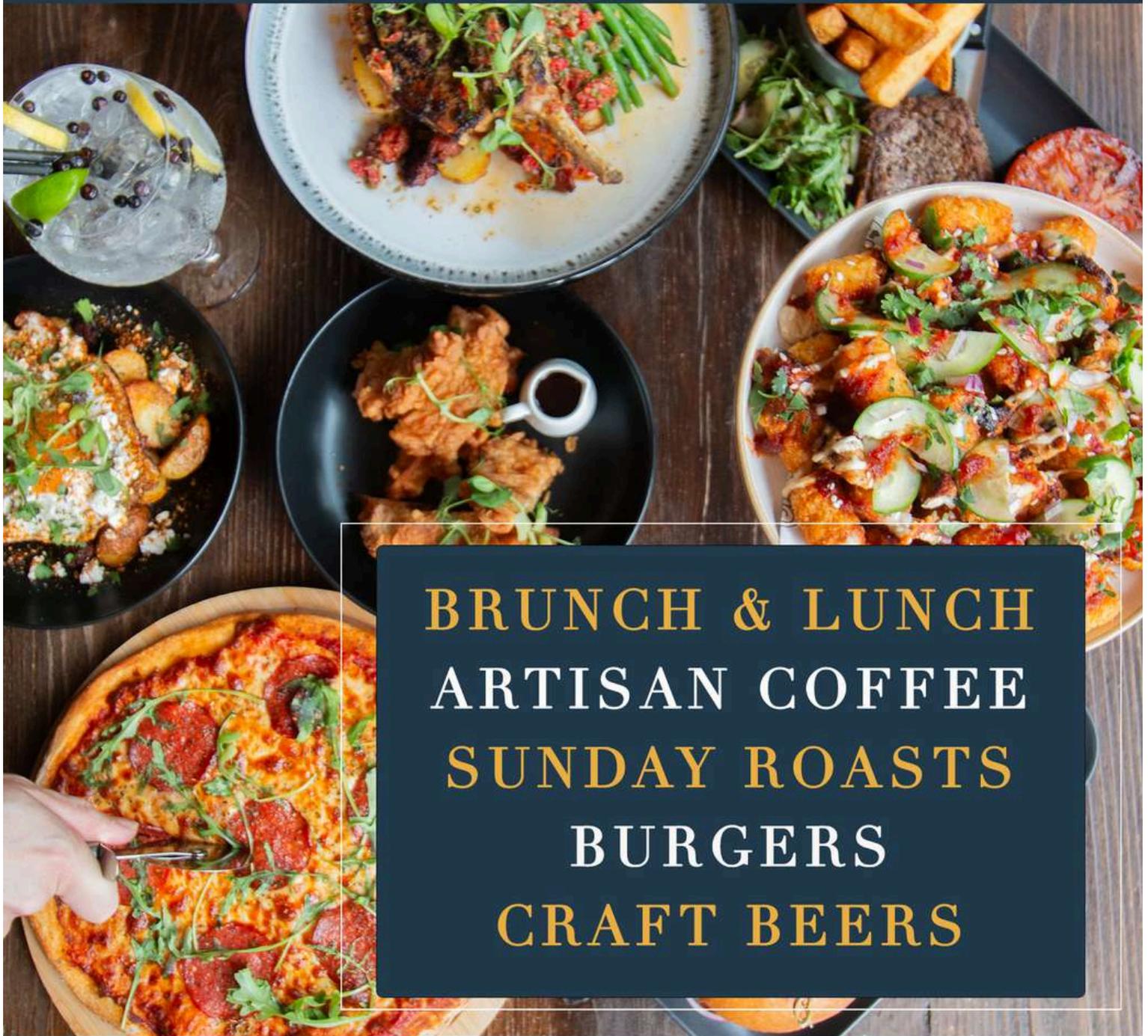
Email: dom@dwoodcraft.co.uk



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BURGERS
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