



Issue 96 | October 2024

Costessey

TOWN COUNCIL



Council
RESPONSIBILITIES

Hiring OUR
Halls

Free Events
IN COSTESSEY

*A view from above, Queen's Hills Estate.
Photo courtesy of Mark Stevenson. Instagram: @Markgs21*

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COSTESSEY TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS 2024/25

Members of the public are always welcome to attend our Full Council meetings held at The Costessey Centre, Longwater Lane, NR85AH. Please see below for a full list of meeting dates for 2024/25. Meetings begin at 19.30pm on the second Tuesday of every month. If there is a particular item, you would like to discuss please inform the Town Clerk at least five working days before.

2024: 8th October, 12th November, 10th December

2025: 14th January, 4th February, 11th March, 1st April, 13th May, 10th June, 8th July, 9th September, 14th October, 11th November 9th December.

Other meetings of the council or its committees may be organised as required throughout the year. Those above and any others organised will be advertised on the Council's website and notice boards in advance of the meeting. For documents related to the meetings including minutes and agendas please visit www.costesseytc.org

Photo courtesy of Mark Stevenson

CELEBRATING Leadership AND Vision IN COSTESSEY

As we usher in a new chapter for Costessey Town Council, it is essential to take a moment to recognise the dedication of our outgoing Chairman, Patrick O'Connor, and to warmly welcome our new Chairman, Councillor Terry Laidlaw.

A Heartfelt Farewell to Patrick O'Connor

Patrick has been a pillar of our community since he joined the Council in 2007, dedicating his 'life and soul' to serving the residents of Costessey, where he has lived for most of his life. His contributions have been truly noteworthy. Not only did he lead the development of the Costessey Fete and Fayre –an event that flourished since its inception under his guidance– but he also played a crucial role as a trustee of The Costessey Parochial Charity, which provides essential support to those in need within our community.

Throughout his years of service, Patrick has worked diligently on various committees, including Finance and Governance, Planning and Environment, to name just a few. His commitment has laid a strong foundation for our community's growth and prosperity. While we bid farewell to his role as Chairman, we are grateful that he will continue to serve as a Town Councillor and ask the community to express their heartfelt thanks to Patrick for his unwavering dedication and hard work.

Incoming Chairman - Councillor Terry Laidlaw

With the torch now passed to Councillor Terry Laidlaw, we are excited about the strategic direction he brings to the Council. Terry, who also serves as a South Norfolk District Councillor, has a wealth of experience in organisational management, financial, and business planning. His vision for Costessey is both ambitious and grounded.

Terry aims to ensure that our local infrastructure keeps pace with the rapid housing and population growth in our area. He is committed to addressing the day-to-day concerns of our residents and fostering a collaborative spirit within the community. As he steps into this role, he is also chairing the Strategic Working Group, where he plans to leverage his skills for the benefit of both Costessey Town Council and South Norfolk District Council.

Terry will be supported by our new Vice, Sheila Jones. With 34 years of residence in Costessey, Sheila brings a passionate commitment to keeping our community vibrant and engaged. She aims to guide residents to the resources they need, emphasising that while she may not have all the answers, she's dedicated to finding solutions.

Engagement Opportunities

We encourage all residents to stay involved and engage with our new leadership team. Council meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every month, offering a perfect opportunity for you to meet Terry, Sheila and your fellow councillors. Additionally, we have a series of organised events planned, where you can share your thoughts and ideas with the team.

Together, let's continue to build a bright future for Costessey, grounded in community spirit and collective effort.



Patrick O'Connor

Welcome FROM THE TOWN CLERK, **Stacey Kent**

Welcome to another edition of our Costessey Town Council newsletter. As I reflect on my time as Clerk, which began back in April 2022, I am reminded of what a journey it has been. Costessey is a place rich in community spirit, and I have been honoured to serve alongside the dedicated team of councillors, staff and volunteers who make this area a wonderful place to live, work and raise a family.

Personal Connection to Norfolk

Having lived in Norfolk for over 30 years with my partner and our six children, I understand the value of 'community'. Although our children are now grown and exploring the world, Norfolk remains a place I hope they will one day return to.

My personal connection to the area strengthens my commitment to ensuring Costessey remains a thriving town for future generations. My professional background in banking and local government has provided me with the skills needed to navigate the complexities of council work, but ultimately, it is my dedication for this community and the people who work and live in it, that drives me every day.

Navigating Challenges and Strengthening Culture

The transition after the long tenure of my predecessor, Hilary Elias, was not without its challenges. Change is never easy, but by working as a team we have been fortunate to have the support of many individuals throughout the process. There is not enough space to thank the long list of names who have given their support and continue to do so; however, I would personally like to take this opportunity to show my appreciation to past serving Councillors John Amis, Glenys Dole, and Dan Burrill who all brought invaluable insights, knowledge, and support during their time on the council. Their dedication, along with that of many unsung heroes in our community, has been instrumental in making Costessey a great place to live and work. This continues with

the valued support of outgoing Chair - Patrick O'Connor, and the incoming leadership from Terry Laidlaw - Chairman, Sheila Jones - Vice Chair, Graham Jones - Finance Chair, Louise Gibbs-Kneller - Chair of Staffing and Justin Cork who leads as Chair of the Property and Environment Committee. The whole council and staff team are committed to fostering a positive culture of respect and constructive dialogue. We want to ensure that every resident feels their voice is heard and valued. While there have been moments of disagreement, particularly on social media, we believe the best way forward is through open, honest, and most importantly 'respectful' communication. The council culture encourages us all to focus on working together to make Costessey a better place to live and work.

A New Structure for a Brighter Future

In order to meet the growing needs of our Costessey residents, we have restructured and reshaped our internal team to include a new Senior Management Team model. This step was vital to ensure that we have the leadership in place to support the council with the delivery of our strategic plans. Our team of 19 councillors, each bringing unique skills and perspectives, will be supported by a highly competent management team working towards the same goal—ensuring that Costessey residents receive the services and support they deserve.

Strategic Vision for the Town Council

Since joining the council, the primary focus has been on fostering growth and sustainability for the long-term and future benefit of the community. Two current projects on our radar are the Lodge Farm/Hampdens open space development, and the much-needed improvements to our cemetery. Lodge Farm is progressing steadily, with Taylor Wimpey appointing another new project manager. We expect more information on the planning application and confirmation on the commuted sums by early 2025.

This will allow us to engage fully with residents and stakeholders to ensure the development and improvements align with the whole of Costessey's needs. Meanwhile, the cemetery improvements are moving forward, ensuring our facilities meet the demands of our growing town while remaining respectful and fit for purpose. The projects are just two examples of how we are working hard to ensure that Costessey continues to thrive and evolve. Watch this space for more information on exciting projects coming soon.

Building Community Engagement

We believe that a successful council is built on the strength of its community. That is why we will be launching new opportunities for residents to get involved in the life of the Town Council. Will be holding more 'drop-in' and 'meet the team' sessions where residents can learn more about how they can contribute to ongoing projects and initiatives by meeting councillors and members of staff. We are also working on a dedicated webpage that will list all volunteer roles and practical ways residents can support the council's efforts. From event planning to project consultations, there is a place for everyone to help shape the future of Costessey. Rest assured, we are putting processes in place to ensure that when you offer your valuable time, you will feel supported and appreciated. With some exciting projects on the horizon and a strong team in place, we invite you to join us in shaping the future of our wonderful community.

Be Part of Costessey's Future

In closing, I want to reassure you that Costessey Town Council is committed to delivering the leadership Costessey deserves, but we cannot do it alone. We need your ideas, your involvement, and your voice. Whether through attending events, volunteering your time, or simply participating in discussions, your contribution matters. We look forward to meeting you soon.

UPDATE BY CHAIR OF STAFFING COMMITTEE

Louise Gibbs-Kneller

The Town Council strives to be a 'good employer', and as councillors we take professional advice and information on crucial employment areas to improve our employees' work which in turn benefits the community. We believe guidance based on employment legislation and good practice is essential in helping all councillors to be good employers, whilst supporting our employees to also feel valued.

Good governance lies at the heart of a council's ability to achieve its objectives, manage its finances and maintain the trust of those that it serves. Good governance also encourages more robust decision making, greater scrutiny of decisions and better planning for the future.

As part of the council's Strategic Working Groups focus, consideration has recently been given to the future needs of the council, to ensure there are adequate resources to deliver services to the growing Costessey community. To do this the council wanted to ensure the council staff were adequate in number, had the skills and the capability to support the local community with the day-to-day work of the council and to strengthen the governance of the council. With the previous Town Clerk - Hilary Elias, taking well deserved retirement, and other valued staff heading off for new challenges, the task of re-assessing and improving the staffing structure was key.

As a result, I am pleased to confirm that we are now almost fully staffed, and on behalf

of the staffing committee and the rest of the council, we give a very warm welcome to our new members of staff. A big thank you goes to those staff who have moved onto pastures new, for their contributions to the council during their time with us. We would like to give an even bigger thank you to our existing staff team members who have rallied while we undertook these structural changes needed and who supported the committee with the recruitment required to achieve this.

Moving forward, the staffing committee and I will be continuing to support the council with all staffing related matters to ensure a smooth running and happy working environment.

Your Town Councillors

NEW COSTESSEY WARD

Terry Laidlaw (Chairman)

✉ Terry.laidlaw@costesseytc.org
✉ *Terry.laidlaw@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk
☎ 01603 271687



Sheila Jones (Vice-Chair)

✉ Sheila.jones@costesseytc.org
☎ 01603 742791



Jenny McCloskey

✉ Jenny.mccloskey@costesseytc.org
✉ *Jenny.mccloskey@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk
☎ 07990 755972



Iftekher Alam

✉ Iftekher.alam@costesseytc.org
☎ 07973 870113



Patrick O'Connor

✉ Patrick.oconnor@costesseytc.org
☎ 07770 447876



Graham Jones

✉ Graham.jones@costesseytc.org
☎ 01603 742791



Ross Wheeldon

✉ Ross.wheeldon@costesseytc.org
☎ 07359 107025



Mark Bedford

✉ Mark.bedford@costesseytc.org
☎ 01603 749833



OLD COSTESSEY WARD

Libby Glover

✉ Libby.glover@costesseytc.org
☎ 01603 748374



John Newby

✉ John.newby@costesseytc.org
☎ 01603 746328



Sharon Sizeland

✉ Sharon.sizeland@costesseytc.org
☎ 07791 870702



Dean Toms

✉ Dean.toms@costesseytc.org
01603 742958



Jannine Wheeldon

✉ Jannine.wheeldon@costesseytc.org
☎ 07359 107025



QUEEN'S HILLS WARD

Justin Cork

✉ Justin.cork@costesseytc.org
✉ *Justin.cork@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk
☎ 07777 678491



Ben Fiaz

✉ Ben.fiaz@costesseytc.org
☎ 01603 749530



Louise Gibbs-Kneller

✉ Louisegibbskneller@costesseytc.org
☎ 01603 742035



David Marshall

✉ David.marshall@costesseytc.org
☎ 01603 742958



Abida Timothy

✉ Abida.timothy@costesseytc.org
☎ 01603 742958



Ewa Duncan

✉ Ewa.duncan@costesseytc.org
☎ 01603 742958



WANTED: TOWN COUNCILLORS

Payment: Zero pounds (but all the biscuits you can handle)

Role: Are you a glutton for endless emails, late-night budget meetings and occasional social media fame (the kind you didn't ask for)?

As a Town Councillor, you'll have the honour of:

- Making important decisions... and sometimes debating whether the biscuits should be chocolate or custard creams.
- Attending riveting council meetings where the true drama of planning applications unfolds.
- Representing the voice of your community (just be prepared for all the voices, from loud complaints to whispered compliments).
- Becoming an expert on everything from dog walking routes to public loos, whether you asked for it or not.
- Getting paid in the eternal gratitude of your neighbours (or at least, the ones who remember to thank you).

The rewards: Unparalleled. You'll help shape the future of your town, build a better community and occasionally make decisions that no one seems to notice—until, of course, something goes wrong.

If this sounds like your idea of fun, sign up today! Biscuits and the joy of public service await.

For more information please contact: info@costesseytc.org

Do you enjoy being stopped in the supermarket to debate potholes, streetlights and why the bin collections were late last week?

Then congratulations, you might be just what we're looking for.

Council responsibilities

COUNTY COUNCILS: Are responsible for services across the whole of the county of Norfolk.

DISTRICT, BOROUGH AND CITY COUNCILS: These cover a smaller area than county councils. For example, South Norfolk and Broadland council.

Listed are the most common enquiries but does not list all the council's individual responsibilities and the graphic is to be used only as guidance.

HIGHWAYS

Did you know you can report highway problems directly here on www.norfolk.gov.uk or scan this QR code.



For planned road work information including diversions and closures go to <https://one.network/uk/norfolk> or scan this QR code.



(Please note emergency works are excluded).

GRIT BINS

Norfolk County Council are responsible for filling the registered grit bins twice per winter season, which is in Nov/Dec, and after Christmas depending on weather conditions. Due to limited funds, they only refill them at other times when resources allow and not on request. Updates for residents on N.C.C. gritting plans are via local radio, Norfolk County Council Facebook and X/Twitter.

We urge people to use the grit sparingly. A tablespoon of salt will treat an area of 1m².

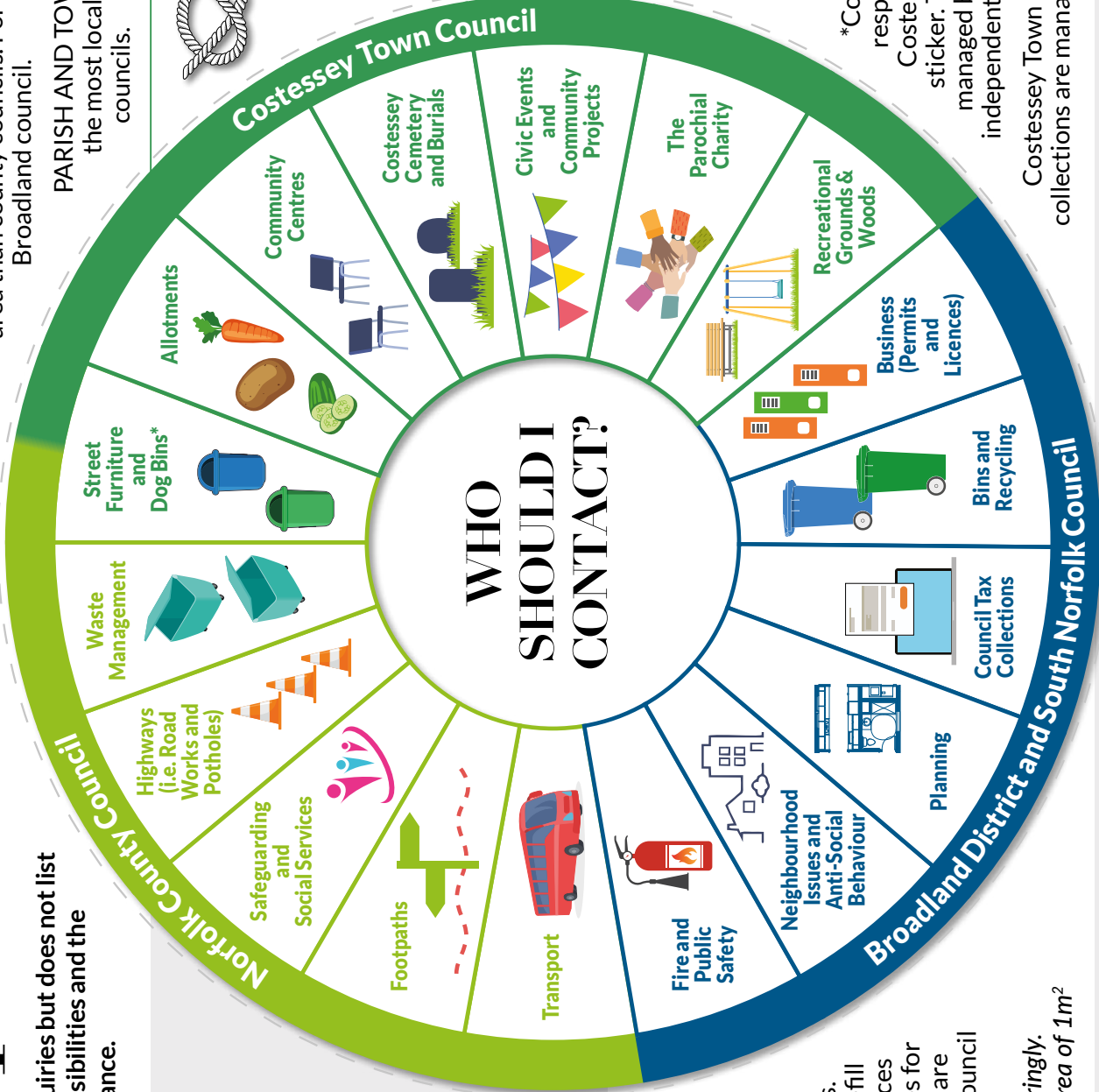
Norfolk County Council
0344 800 8020

Broadland District Council
01603 431133

South Norfolk Council
01508533701



*Broadland District Council and South Norfolk Council are two independent councils with their own constitutions, elected members and committees, though supported by one joint officer team. Information/logos sourced from www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk



PARISH AND TOWN COUNCILS: These operate at the most local level, below district and borough councils.



CONTACT US

info@costesseytc.org
 01603 742958
www.costessey.org.uk

TOWN COUNCIL OFFICE
 First Floor
 The Costessey Centre
 Longwater Lane
 Costessey
 Norwich, NR8 5AH



Did you know on our Costessey Town Council website there is an A-Z list of services that we are responsible for? Visit www.costesseytc.org or scan this QR code.

*Costessey Town Council is responsible for streetlights in Costessey that have a green & white sticker. The majority of streetlights are managed by Norfolk County Council or independent developers.

Costessey Town Council has 52 dog bins, but collections are managed by South Norfolk.



Galactic Troopers

This year Costessey Town Council have worked hard to provide more regular activities and events throughout the duration of the year which cater to all demographics. The events working group's priority was to ensure all our events were accessible to all members of the community being free entry, free parking and including free activities. From pre-loved pop up sales to our first ever free Children's fun day we are extremely pleased with the excellent feedback and responses. We look forward to offering the Costessey community more events over the next year!

Children's Fun Day at the Costessey Centre

Our first free Children's Fun Day was held on Saturday 3rd August 2024. Our goal was to create a day in the summer holidays for children to attend and enjoy several free activities. Being aware of how expensive days out can be in the summer holidays for families, this had an extremely positive response from visitors and vendors. The free activities included a four-sided rock-climbing wall, gaming arcade, science shows and dinosaurs. In addition there were pocket money friendly stalls, food vendors, free crafts, Galactic troopers and more. This would have not been possible without the help of our sponsorship from local estate agents Russen & Hill and Costessey Town Council's events budget.

Our children's fun day will be returning in 2025... Keep an eye out for the date.



"We've done a fair few public events and we felt the event you put together was really well done, everything from the communication between yourselves and us, both prior to the event and on the day was brilliant. The range of activities for families to make use of, you catered for a range of ages and varying interests, rock climbing for the sporty active children, for children interested in gaming and technology (think we may have sold a few Christmas presents in terms of children wanting VR headsets!) The staff and team on the day were all incredibly lovely and friendly, definitely give yourselves a pat on the back and be proud of what you provided for local families during the holidays."

The Game Station LTD

Indoor Pre-Loved Pop Up Sales

Buying second-hand is more on trend than ever with one main reason being the positive environmental factor. Costessey Town Council is proud to offer indoor pre-loved pop up sales across all three of our centres. Bringing the chance for the Costessey community to come together and sell their items in the comfort of our halls, so the British weather doesn't matter. Items on sale range from pre-loved fashion, books, toys, accessories and more. Our first pop-up sale was held at the Costessey Centre on Longwater Lane. Costessey Community Gardening Club hosted a table outside which was also well attended selling plants to raise funds for their group. Our next pop-up sale was held at Breckland Hall and Owen Barnes Room which saw all table spaces over both halls sell out. The last being held at Queens Hills Community centre. Our aim to host these events regularly throughout all our halls will continue next year. Go to the 'dates for your diary' for the upcoming dates!



A Costessey resident kindly donated an extremely generous amount of wool to Councillor Jannine Wheeldon after seeing the free knitting workshops hosted by Jannine. With such a large donation it was decided and agreed by the resident to sell a portion at the pre-loved pop up sales for a dramatically reduced price with funds going towards Dadvengers events.

QUIZ NIGHTS

Costessey Town Council's free quiz nights were created to be accessible for everyone to be welcome, including people coming alone. Many quiz nights you need a minimum of three people to book and create a group. Our quiz night has a twist and is open for individuals to book in, then we create the groups. This proved very successful and was a great opportunity to meet new people. A huge thank you to Councillor Ross Wheeldon who volunteered to be our amazing quiz master for these nights!



Dadventgers hosted another one of their popular Daddies' Discos in partnership with Costessey Town Council at Queens Hill Community Centre. The popularity of Dadventgers events at the community centre is growing continuously and we are delighted to be a part of such a wonderful supportive community. Ashley Armes a dad who attends Dadventgers is a Service Manager based at Dereham depot for G & J Peck, kindly bought a JCB Fastrac for children to be able to sit in and take photos. This was a fantastic opportunity for the children (and adults too)!



Visit Dadventgers.com for more information and upcoming events.

GAMES AFTERNOON

With a passion for all things game related Councillor Ross Wheeldon has been hosting free games afternoons. Suitable for complete beginners or skilled gamers. The first event saw a wide demographic range of people attend and enjoy viewing and playing the games in a relaxed setting. From 'Dungeons & Dragons' to unique board and card games all were showcased and played.

Head to page 14 & 15 for future events!

80th D-Day Anniversary



Chairman Terry Laidlaw, Ian Shuttleworth- RBL Chair and Vice-Chair Sheila Jones.
Photo courtesy of Cllr Ross Wheeldon

We held an open afternoon exhibition at the Costessey Centre for the 80th anniversary of D-Day in June 2024. This was a very special afternoon for everyone who attended. A range of memorabilia was available to view of which a large portion was kindly donated by several members of the community and Costessey Town Council Archivist Graham Jones. Short documentaries were watched followed by the laying of a wreath by the Royal British Legion.



To mark the occasion we changed our flag to a special D-Day edition.

1960's Memories Workshop

In April we had the pleasure of hosting a free 1960s workshop with Angela Bishop, qualified reminiscence worker at the Costessey Centre. Angela bought lots of memorabilia which was shown throughout the workshop and numerous memories related to the items were shared. From what was worn in the 60s to films shown in the cinemas it was a great afternoon full of laughter and reminiscing.



DEMENTIA CAFÉ

Roy's of Wroxham works closely with MADL (Make a difference locally). Making a Difference Locally is Nisa's registered charity, which enables independent retailers to donate money to their local communities.

Costessey Town Council's Dementia Cafe kindly got accepted and received a donation. This donation enabled us to provide more activities including new jigsaws, games and continuing the offer of free refreshments and snacks.

The Dementia Cafe is held on the second Thursday of every month **between 10.00am - noon upstairs in the Jerningham Room at the Costessey Centre.** (Lift access and free onsite parking).

For more details about the café please contact the office via info@costesseytc.org or 01603 742958.



For the latest updates and announcements follow our social media accounts.

Facebook: @CTC Activities & Events

Instagram: @Costessey Town Council Official

HIRING OUR HALLS for parties and events

We are proud our community halls are used for such a vast range of community activities every single day during the week and weekends! We have regular groups across our three community centres ranging from dance classes, children's activities, art groups, fitness classes, educational and more! In addition, the community centres are available to hire for private events such as birthday parties, christenings and family events. Below we have commonly asked questions about booking our halls which we hope will help you in the future.



What time can we hire the hall?

All our halls are available to be hired from 09.00am till 10.30pm. Our minimum hire is two hours and then can be increased hourly. We recommend a minimum of four hour hire for parties. The time you book the hall includes your set up and clearing away. For example, a children's birthday party with a four hour hire from 10.30am -14.30pm would be an hour to set up (10.30am-11.30am), two hours for the party (11.30am-13.30pm) than an hour to clear away.



Why do I have to give a minimum four weeks' notice to book my event?

As a hirer you will be met by one of our caretaking staff on the day of your booking. The caretaker will open the hall for you, show you the facilities and go through health and safety requirements. The caretaker will be on call for the duration of your booking, returning at the end of your session to check, clean and alarm the building. We need to arrange that we have a caretaker available, for all our halls so our staffing rotas are planned in advance.

Meet our Caretakers/Cleaners

F/T
Maurice
Barrowcliffe

P/T
Heather
Nicolls

P/T
Lee Will

For all enquires please contact the office via:
info@costesseytc.org or call 01603 742 958.

Our halls include air-con/heating, wi-fi, kitchen with fridge, freezer, oven & water boiler for hot drinks. Tables and chairs are located in each hall's storeroom which hirers are welcome to use for their event. We kindly ask hirers to leave the room in the same condition they found it.



I want alcohol at my event, can I bring my own?

Sorry no. Our halls are licensed premises. If you wish to have any alcohol at your event you will need to contact our licensee. Mike Urry from the registered charity Whitwell and Reepham Preservation Trust. Contact details will be provided by the office upon your enquiry.



We would like a bouncy castle in the hall?

The Owen Barnes room, Stafford Hall & Dinneen Hall are suitable for bouncy castles. Hirers are responsible for the actual hire and for ensuring that the relevant insurance is obtained and produced for the Council before the event.



What's the capacity of your halls?

Capacity for our halls will vary from event to event. For example, dance floors, photobooths, bouncy castles and certain table layouts will all dramatically reduce the capacity of the hall. In addition, the layout of the room needs to follow the health & safety/fire regulations. It is important when enquiring to book our halls to note all additional extras you plan for your event at the time of booking so we can recommend the most suitable hall.

THE COSTESSEY CENTRE

Longwater Lane
Costessey
Norwich,
NR8 5AH



BRECKLAND HALL & OWEN BARNES ROOM

Breckland Road
New Costessey
Norwich
NR5 0RW



QUEEN'S HILLS COMMUNITY CENTRE

Poethlyn Drive
Queen's Hills
Norwich
NR8 5BP



Classes and activities

IN OUR HALLS

These groups are held in our building on a regular hirer agreement by the independent person booking the hall. The Town Council do not endorse these groups. For all enquires please contact the group directly.

LONGWATER ART GROUP AT THE COSTESSEY CENTRE

This lively group of artists meet on a Tuesday morning from 9.00am to 13.00pm in term time. Members provide their own materials and work in a variety of media creating beautiful art in company whilst also sharing valuable knowledge with each other.

For more information and joining prices please contact Andy on andrewhowes.d1@gmail.com or 07818 607671.



SENSORY MUSIC CLASSES FOR BABIES, TODDLERS AND PRESCHOOLERS!

Every Tuesday at Breckland Hall.

To book please contact Michelle on 07889 256 455

Email: norwich@musicbugs.co.uk

SAVAGE MARTIAL ARTS

Children classes from 3 years old, ladies only classes, adult training and new SEN sessions—we've got something for EVERYONE!

Every Tuesday at the Costessey Centre, NR8 5AH

Contact jamie@savagemartialarts.co.uk for more information.

LEARNING TO DANCE WITH CEROC

A great way to keep fit, socialise and enjoy a night out!

Easy to learn and although you dance with partners many people come on their own. No complicated footwork.

New members welcome. No need to book in advance just turn up!

Thursdays at the Costessey Centre from 19.00pm - 22.00pm (Doors open at 18.45pm)

£10 per evening, new member offer £30 for the first six classes.

Email: fusion@ceroc.com
Mob: 07801 492358

FITNESS PILATES AND YOGA CLASSES

Friday mornings at the Costessey Centre.

Improve core and strengthen the back. Increase fitness with no impact.

09.30am Fitness Pilates and/or 10.30am Fitness Yoga

Classes are £7 or £12 for both- pay as you go.

Contact Helen on info@helensfitness.co.uk or Mob: 07730 193934

COSTESSEY MEMORIES GROUP

Meet once a month from September till June, doors open from 10:00am for a 10:30am start, on the first Monday of the month, unless it is a bank holiday then it will be the second. We meet in Breckland Hall, Costessey (next to the Library). We have talks, slide shows and regularly show documentaries of times gone by, mainly featuring Costessey, Norwich and East Anglia. The meetings are also a social get together with plenty of time to chat and to get to know others. The charge per individual is £1 to cover the hire of the room, tea/coffee also available with a biscuit. Our Memories group team are always looking to welcome new residents to join the group!

LITTLE GLOW NORWICH

Come and explore our relaxed multi-sensory room with your baby and meet other local parents. Suitable from newborn - 6 months. Sessions held at the Costessey Centre and Queens Hills Community Centre. Head to norwich.thelittlesensory.co for bookings and availability.



**Early
Childhood
and Family
Service**



**Norfolk
County Council**

Working in
partnership
to make a
difference
for children







Stay up to date:
[@ECFSNorfolk](https://www.instagram.com/ECFSNorfolk)






Join us for our **free**, weekly Stay & Play session at

Queen's Hill Community Centre

☒ Poethlyn Drive, Costessey, NR8 5EP

Every **Thursday**, 1:45 – 2:45pm

Open to all children aged 0 to 5 years and their families, every week, all year round – this includes during school holidays too.

There's no need to book, just come along!

COSTESSEY COMMUNITY Gardening Club

Affiliated to the Norfolk & Norwich Horticultural Society

October 2024 is the club's 3rd birthday! The first meeting was held in the Rymarz Gallery on October 20th 2021 when 18 people attended. The Sensory Garden beds at the Costessey Centre had recently been planted and The Well-Beeing-Garden was in the final stages of planning and construction. Plans were underway to renovate the raised bed at Breckland Library. Since then a band of club volunteers continue to maintain the flowerbeds and keep them looking perfect throughout the year.

Membership has continued to grow and we have 36 paid up members with an average of 25 people attending each meeting. Club meetings start with a cup of tea/coffee & biscuits and time for members and visitors to chat and catch up before a talk from an invited speaker. We aim to have a diverse programme of speakers including subjects on the wider natural world as well as aspects of gardening and horticulture. The annual programme includes an organised visit, walks and social time with a quiz or two.

NEW MEMBERS & VISITORS WELCOME

The Costessey Centre (Jerningham Room), Longwater Lane, NR8 5AH
on 3rd Wednesday of every month (except January) 7.15pm - 9.15pm

Annual Membership - £12.00

Pay as You Go/Visitor - £3.00 per meeting

Extra pairs of gardening hands always welcome to help maintain the flowerbeds

Find us on our Facebook page: The Costessey Community Gardening Club



Photo courtesy of Georgina Duford

Hampdens Hedgehogs

I am a Hedgehog Champion. That means I am a conservation activist for Hedgehogs. I live on the Hampdens and we have a healthy population of Hedgehogs on our new estate. I raise awareness about Hedgehogs and encourage residents to become Hedgehog Champions. Hedgehogs are an endangered species and are on the red list - close to extinction.

Every year I run a stall on our estate teaching residents how to become a Hedgehog Champion.

It doesn't take much to become a Hedgehog Champion, just follow the 10 tips below.

1. **CREATE HEDGEHOG HIGHWAYS:** link your gardens together. Cut a hole in your fence – it's that easy!
2. **MAKE YOUR POND SAFE:** make your pond safe with a ramp.
3. **CREATE A WILD CORNER:** this will provide plenty of insects and a place to nest.
4. **DEAL WITH LITTER AND NETTING:** it is big threat to hedgehogs. They eat and get entangled in this.
5. **PUT OUT FOOD AND WATER:** Meaty dog & cat kibble and a bowl of water is all they need.
6. **STOP USING CHEMICALS:** these are toxic and will kill hedgehogs.
7. **CHECK BEFORE STRIMMING:** strimmers and robotic lawn mowers are one of the biggest causes of injury to hedgehogs. Check any area you are about to strim beforehand.
8. **BONFIRES:** always check beforehand or set up your bonfire on the day as they are the perfect place to nest in.
9. **MAKE A HOME:** create a log pile and leave some straw/leaves in your garden. You can make or buy hedgehog houses too.
10. **BECOME A HEDGEHOG CHAMPION:** register yourself on www.hedgehogstreet.org for more tips and advice.



Kitty with her certificate and prize which was presented at our Town Annual Assembly in April 2024

Follow @HampdensHedgehogs on Facebook & Instagram and join me on my monthly litter pick.

Toads in Costessey need your help!



Every year from January through to the end of March, toads will set out on a perilous journey moving from the fields & gardens to the West of West End, over to the ponds to the East by the river, which are the breeding grounds for the toads. This only occurs for roughly eight weeks

when the temperature begins to rise after winter. The toads have been crossing at this point for many years, long before the houses and increase in traffic. Would you like to join our group of volunteers who come out, pick the toads and frogs up and release them safely on the other side of the

road? You need to dress warmly, wear a Hi-Viz jacket, carry a torch and bucket. This patrol usually saves over 200 toads and frogs during this migration period, but unfortunately numbers are decreasing year on year. For more information email Costessey@toadwatch.org

WELCOME TO The Team!



My name is Ros and I am Operations Manager for Costessey Town Council. This is a new position within the Town Council, which I have held since June this year.

I have over twenty years of property management knowledge and am looking forward to bringing my experience and enthusiasm to this position. I wanted to bring my private sector experience to continue making a positive impact for the Costessey Community.

I am mainly responsible for the grounds and facilities team leadership, working to lead and inspire the team. Strategic planning, contributing to the development and execution of strategic plans for the council assets and facilities aligning with community goals and project management of town council projects including areas such as buildings improvements, open spaces, grounds, wooded areas, cemeteries and streetlights managed by Costessey Town Council.

The Property and Environment Committee have quarterly meetings where members of the public are always welcome.

The dates of the meetings will be published prior in our online diary under 'council meetings' on costessey.org.uk. You will also find the agenda and minutes under each meeting date.

Members:

Justin Cork (Chair)	Ben Fiaz	Terry Laidlaw	John Newby
David Marshall	Libby Glover	Jenny McCloskey	Mark Bedford



All three of our premises have CCTV covering the outside surrounding our buildings and public foyers inside. We know this can provide the community with a sense of safety, prevent antisocial behaviour and if needed provide recorded evidence to law enforcement. This year it was decided to upgrade our CCTV at all three of our sites to improve coverage by the end of the financial year.

Longwater RECREATIONAL PARK



COSTESSEY SPORTS FC SUMMER FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

"The annual Costessey Sports football tournament was held at Longwater Lane Park back in June and what a weekend it was. We had great weather over the weekend and plenty of football being played. This event raises much needed funds for our club and over the weekend we had 128 teams and over 1000 boys and girls taking part from under 7s all the way through to under 16s. We supported a couple of local charities who had stalls at the tournament over the weekend to raise awareness (Offside Trust and Costessey Shed). We want to say a massive thank you to Costessey Council for supporting the event and allowing use of the ground and facilities with some of the best pitches you will see. Big thank you to all the local businesses that supported the event with sponsorship. Solar Signs and Graphics were the main sponsor with Russen and Hill, Norfolk Cement, Watt Electrical, P Nunn Installations, AM Electrics, Topclass Construction, East Anglian Blinds and B1 Barbers sponsoring our pitches. We look forward to the next tournament in June 2025"

James - Costessey Sports Club Chairman

SNEAK PEEK!

Costessey Town Council are excited to announce our brand-new space which will be available to hire very soon! 'The Pod' is a flexible space fully furnished with desk, monitor and comfortable seating for up to four people. The pod can be used for a variety of activities including formal meetings, social prescribing, interviews, training sessions and a whole lot more.

Featuring leading acoustics and soundproofing, adjustable LED lighting, ventilation fans, power outlets, a key card locking system and Bluetooth speakers for your online meetings. We look forward to offering the community this digitally connected space soon.



PUBLIC ACCESS TRAUMA (PACT) KITS

We now have Public Access Trauma (PACT) Kits at all our community centres. PACT First Aid Kits are designed to be used by anyone, regardless of their level of first aid training, and supports the first aid efforts until the emergency services arrive.

The Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Bill has now been introduced to Parliament and is on its way to becoming law. The Bill is also known as 'Martyn's Law' in tribute to Martyn Hett, who was tragically killed alongside 21 others in the Manchester Arena terrorist attack. Many organisations are now taking simple and reasonably practicable steps ahead of the Bill's expected imminent progression, following existing fundamental guidance from ProtectUK and National Counter Terrorism Security Office (NaCTSO), to help ensure their premises and events are prepared should the worst happen.

The Collison Room becomes the new home for Costessey Town Council archives.

THE Collison Room

Costessey has a rich history dating from prehistoric times to the present day and Costessey Town Council is fortunate in possessing a very good collection of paintings, maps and photographs which give an insight into particular aspects of this.

The collection has been built up over a number of years thanks mainly to the generosity of our residents and it has grown under the guidance of my very accomplished and diligent predecessor Paul Cooper.

Up to now the collection, apart from the paintings displayed in the Rymarz Gallery, has remained out of sight, in various storerooms and cupboards. Items have come out to illustrate events such as Coronations and Jubilees

but such displays have been temporary and afterwards the items have been returned to storage. The collection is interesting and is a very important resource in seeing and understanding the development of our area. Costessey Town Council is therefore keen to find ways of making all aspects of our collection more readily available, not least for educational purposes.

To aid this, the Collison Room has been designated as the room of our archives and we are currently exploring ways to display a greater number of items in our collection and make them accessible to both the casual visitor and those with more specific interests.

What do we have?

The paintings are of particular interest, we have some good copies of works by Sir Alfred Munnings from his time in the Costessey area as well as a number of paintings of the impressive Costessey Hall which was first built by the Jerningham Family in the mid-16th Century and spectacularly enlarged by Sir George Jerningham after he obtained the Barony of Stafford in 1825. Sadly, after the death of a later Lord Stafford in 1913 the house was commandeered by the War office during the First World War and demolished shortly thereafter.

Contrasting with the splendours of Costessey Hall there are numerous pictures of the Stick bridge which was the predecessor of the current bridge over the River Tud on Longwater Lane. A quick look at any of the pictures will show just why it was called the Stick bridge.



Councillor Graham Jones



The Stick Bridge

In addition to the paintings there are numerous fascinating maps of Costessey and the surrounding areas, many of them dating from the mid 19th century. As they are extremely large this makes displaying them a challenge and to help we are hoping to get a map desk with drawers of sufficient size to make access easier. We are also looking to find ways of wall mounting some maps safely to give a glimpse of Costessey as it was 150 years ago.

Along with paintings and maps we have a large collection of photographs, some as prints, others as postcards, as well as pamphlets and brochures. We intend to decorate the walls in the Collison Room to show more of our smaller paintings and photographs and to change the displays regularly to enable more of our material to be seen.

We must also mention our local metal detectorists who have contributed many interesting items which are also on display in a cabinet in the Collison Room and we look forward to being able to show more finds. We do have a sizeable archive collection but it is far from complete and we welcome further donations. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Barnes family for their recent donations and also to thank April Wright for the incredibly interesting documents and pictures of pre-development Lodge Farm which we hope to make into a feature in the near future. As you may gather the organisation of the Collison Room is a work in progress, during this phase of reorganisation however, the material is still available to view, although hopefully any detailed examination will prove much easier in future.

Costessey Town Council Archivist - Councillor Graham Jones

To enquire about making a donation please contact Graham.jones@costesseytc.org

BLANKETS FOR COSTESSEY RESIDENTS IN NEED

Local resident, Nathan Dack, is running a campaign to provide blankets for Costessey residents who might suffer from the cold this winter. If you can help by providing blankets or giving a donation towards it that would be appreciated greatly.

If you need a blanket or would like more information, please contact Nathan via nathanjdack@gmail.com

HOW TO APPLY FOR PENSION CREDIT

Worried about losing your 'Winter Fuel Allowance' but can't face filling in a complicated form? **YOU DON'T HAVE TO.**

Phone the pension credit claim line on 0800 99 1234 (Monday to Friday 8am to 6pm)

You will need the following details:-

- Your National Insurance Number
- Your bank account number and recent bank statements
- Details about any savings accounts and investments
- Details about your state pension
- Details about any other pensions

CLAIMING PENSION CREDIT IS YOUR RIGHT IF YOU ARE A SENIOR CITIZEN ON A LOW INCOME!

"This is a MASSIVE thank you from us to Jenny McCloskey and Justin Cork who are both local Councillors for Costessey Town Council. Their amazing donation of £1500 (from their South Norfolk District Councillor Grants) has enabled us to purchase some much needed storage for our PTA items. With this funding, and the £100 that Jenny kindly donated from her own money, we have managed to purchase a shed and some shelving and storage boxes. The amazing Scott Timber Buildings very kindly offered us a large discount, along with delivery and set up! We are so grateful to everyone involved in this. We were facing the issue of having no storage at all from September, which would have seriously hampered the events we could run. We really do have some kind people in our community."

Costessey Primary School PTA



PC ANDY SNEDDON BEAT MANAGER FOR COSTESSEY

"After a busy summer period patrols continue throughout Costessey to target and deal with Anti-Social Behaviour. We have now arrested and charged two juveniles in relation to recent reports of persons throwing stones at passing vehicles along Dereham Road. They remain on bail for other offences. Anybody with any further information is encouraged to make contact via 101 or via email."

To raise local concerns or issues then please contact Andy via email: SNTCostessey@norfolk.police.uk

Find the FREE local 'Handy' Magazine in the Costessey

Centre & Queen's Hills Community Centre.

Featuring lifestyle articles, competitions, local recipes and news along with small business advertising!

Pick up your free copy on your next visit!



THE HAMPDENS LITTER-PICK

Come and help improve the environment on your doorstep.

"It's a great way to meet neighbours, look after the Hampdens' clean and help the wildlife."

Last Sunday of every month
11.00am - 12.00pm

Meet at the green on Britannia Way NR5
bring your own equipment or we can supply you with some to use.

#LitterHero in association with



Support for anyone who is feeling vulnerable:

- ▶ All ages
- ▶ Help with obtaining the basic essentials
- ▶ Feeling isolated
- ▶ Worried about issues at home, including relationships
- ▶ Money issues

Call Help Hub: 01603 430431
e: helphub@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk



UPCOMING FREE eve

2024

REMEMBRANCE THEMED WORKSHOP

Join us at our Remembrance themed workshop with Angela Bishop a qualified reminiscence worker who is experienced in working with people living with Dementia. A wide range of memorabilia will be available to view in this interactive workshop. Everyone is welcome. Refreshments and snacks provided.

📧 Email info@costesseytc.org or call 01603 742 958 to book your free space.

🕒 Monday 11th November, 11.30am-13.00pm,
The Costessey Centre, NR8 5AH

LONGWATER ART GROUP

Join Longwater art group for their open morning to view a wide range of art and cards made by local artists. Art will be available to buy on the day.

📧 No need to book! Free Entry.

🕒 Tuesday 12th November 09.30am-Noon
The Costessey Centre, NR8 5AH

Costessey
TOWN COUNCIL

Russen Hill

CHRISTMAS

AT THE COSTESSEY CENTRE
LONGWATER LANE, NR8 5AH

INDOOR CRAFT MARKET FULL OF HANDMADE GIFTS
FROM LOCAL MAKERS AND SMALL BUSINESSES

FREE PHOTOBOOTH, GAMES AND COMPETITIONS
THROUGHOUT THE DAY!

SATURDAY 30TH NOVEMBER | 10.00AM - 16.00PM | FREE ENTRY FREE PARKING

FOLLOW US FOR UPDATES: @CTC_ACTIVITIES & EVENTS @COSTESSEYTOWNCOUNCILOFFICIAL

Costessey
TOWN COUNCIL

CHRISTMAS THEMED QUIZ NIGHT

FREE ENTRY | PRIZES TO BE WON

FRIDAY 22ND NOVEMBER
THE COSTESSEY CENTRE, NR8 5AH
DOORS OPEN AT 18.45PM TO START AT 19.00PM

Have fun and meet new people at our quiz night!
Individuals will be placed in groups so don't worry about coming alone! Refreshments & snacks provided.

REGISTER TODAY!
MAX 3 PEOPLE PER BOOKING

Email info@costesseytc.org or call 01603 742 958 to book your free space

MEMORIES EVENING CINEMA GROUP

A one-hour documentary called 'Costessey Hall 2 up close and personal'. All about the history of Costessey Hall.

📧 Free admission. Donations welcome.

🕒 Friday 15th November
Door opens at 19.00pm
Breckland Hall, NR5 0RW

RIBBON WREATH WORKSHOP

Create a ribbon wreath in our two-hour workshop. Using a simple but unique technique. You will leave the workshop with a beautiful Christmas decoration. All materials supplied.

📧 Email info@costesseytc.org or call 01603 742 958 to book your free space (limited spaces available)

🕒 Thursday 5th December, 18.00pm-20.00pm,
The Costessey Centre,
NR8 5AH

nts!

2025

KNITTING WORKSHOPS

Do you want to try a new craft? Join our friendly two-hour workshop to show you the basics of knitting. You will learn the foundation techniques and all materials are supplied complimentary.

- 📧 Please email Jannine.wheeldon@costesseytc.org to book your free space (limited spaces available)
- 🕒 Wednesday 29th January 18.00pm-20.00pm/
Wednesday 27th March 18.00pm-20.00pm
The Costessey Centre, NR8 5AH



Costessey
TOWN COUNCIL

Beginners Knitting Workshop

Do you want to try a new craft?
Join our friendly two-hour workshop to show you the basics of knitting. You will learn the foundation techniques and all materials are supplied complimentary.
Donations are welcome

Wednesday 29th January
18.00pm-20.00pm
The Costessey Centre, NR8 5AH

For any enquiries and to book your free space email
Jannine.wheeldon@costesseytc.org or call 07359 107025

OPEN GAMES AFTERNOON

Have you wanted to join a games group but not sure where to start?

Or are you experienced in the games world and would like to join a new local group?

From 'Dungeons & Dragons' to unique board and card games we will be showcasing them all for you to view and play in a relaxed setting.

So, pop along to one of our FREE open afternoon where you will be able to test the games and speak to a games master to answer any questions.

- 📧 For enquires or additional information please contact ross.wheeldon@costesseytc.org
- 🕒 Saturday 22nd February
15.00pm-18.00pm
The Costessey Centre, NR8 5AH



Dadventurers will be hosting regular children's events at Queen's Hills Community centre throughout the year. Events will be advertised on our social media prior! Make sure to follow us on social media to keep up to date with their latest events!

- @Costessey Town Council Official
- @CTC Activities & events



FREE ENTRY & PARKING

INDOOR PRE-LOVED POP UP

DATE: SATURDAY 1ST FEBRUARY
TIME: 10.00AM-14.00PM
VENUE: THE COSTESSEY CENTRE, NR8 5AH

Find a bargain or have a declutter!

To book a table please contact the office on info@costesseytc.org or 01603 742958

(Tables are supplied and cost £5 each book now to avoid disappointment!)

THINGS YOU CAN SELL:
CLOTHING | SHOES | TOYS
| JEWELLERY | BOOKS

Costessey
TOWN COUNCIL

QUIZ NIGHT!

Have fun and meet new people at our quiz night! Individuals will be placed in groups so don't worry about coming alone! Refreshments & snacks provided.

- 📧 Email info@costesseytc.org or call 01603 742 958 to book your free space!
- 🕒 Friday 14th March 2025 Doors open at 18.45pm to start at 19.00pm, The Costessey Centre, NR8 5AH

COUNCIL OFFICE STAFF:

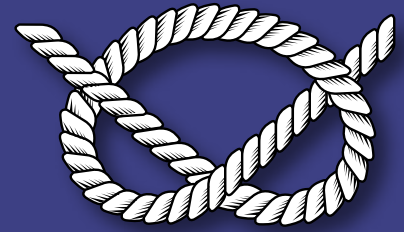
Town Clerk:	Stacey Kent
Senior Finance Manager:	Emma Savage
Operations Manager:	Ros Hills
Executive Assistant:	Lisa Williams
Administration Assistant:	Rachael Ellis
Community Engagement Officer:	Georgina Duford

GROUNDS STAFF:

Barry Barber
Barry Smart
Steven Lester
Lee Will

CARETAKER/CLEANER STAFF:

Maurice Barrowcliffe
Heather Nicholls
Lee Will



CONTACT US

- ✉ info@costesseytc.org
- ☎ 01603 742958
- 🌐 www.costessey.org.uk

Top 10 tips to make your garden hedgehog-friendly

1. Link your garden with Hedgehog Highways
2. Make your pond safe with a ramp
3. Create a wild corner
4. Deal with netting and litter
5. Put out food and water
6. Stop using chemicals
7. Check before strimming
8. Be careful with bonfires
9. Make a home for hedgehogs
10. Become a Hedgehog Champion

