

8a. Churchyard Report July 2026

Churchyard Gates

To replace the gates at the south-west of the churchyard a made to measure gate is required as the aperture is non-standard at circa.2900mm. Removing part of the wall to accommodate standard width gates has been dismissed at this stage to avoid complications. A bespoke solution also supports having new gates similar in design to the adjacent kissing gate, which would otherwise need to be considered for replacement.

Bespoke gate makers in Suffolk are limited in number, with only two being identified; Countryside Quality Gates & Fencing (CQG&F) of Clopton and Hingham Gates Engineering Ltd of Diss. Representatives of both have visited the site and produced quotations. These are summarised as follows:

		Cost ex VAT	
	Countrywide Quality Gates & Fencing		
	New bespoke gates in seasoned oak to match kissing gate	£4,355	
	Fittings e.g. hinges, throwover loop	£182	
			£4,537
	Remove old posts and install new posts and hang gates	£896	
			£896
Option 1			<u>£5,433</u>
	Hingham Gates Engineering Ltd		
	Remove old posts and install new posts and hang gates	£1,095	
	New bespoke gates in seasoned oak (inc ironwork)	£4,470	
Option 2			<u>£5,565</u>
	New bespoke gates on Iroko (inc ironworks)	£3,570	
Option 3			<u>£4,665</u>

Copies of the quotations are attached.

Please note, CQG&F install gates that are made by Suffolk Gates in Acton, Nr Sudbury. This is a long-standing arrangement, where one makes and the other installs.

Please note for reasons of reducing risk and limiting calls on a dwindling band of volunteers I have excluded an option that has old post removal and new post installation being handled within the community.

In terms of funding, the Gardemau trustees have been approached and they are minded to assist. However, this will be alongside financing arrangements for the churchyard wall and given trust deed limitations. At this juncture, I suggest we need to recommend an option and determine how much the parish council might commit to the project. The trustees will then be able to consider a formal request.

Churchyard management

Cllr Soanes and I met Richard Hartley on 1st July and this year's cut will take place in September, date to be determined by the weather.

On 15th July, Suffolk Wildlife Trust held a Churchyard Management course in St Mary's churchyard, to share what can be achieved in a well-managed churchyard. There were some gripes among those attending about the lack of support from their own parish councils, I understand.

I still have to attend to bench cleaning and bench brick placing in the churchyard. The latter is currently pointless with the current hard ground. It's on the list.

Cllr Nick Mills

16th July 2026



30 June 2026

Nick Mills
Coddensham Parish Council
St Mary's Church
Coddensham

Dear Mick,

Our Ref: D 74

Thank you for your recent enquiry I am pleased to quote as follows:-

Supply only of 1 set of Bespoke Church gates in seasoned Oak. 1.2m high (top rail) x 2.89m wide approx.

To match the Kissing gate and picture of the originals.

£ 5226.00 inc vat

Fittings set. Reversible hinges, 2 drop bolts, throwover loop

£ 144.00 inc vat

3no hardwood drop bolt blocks (1for closed, 2 for open)

£ 74.00 inc vat

Us to break out the old posts, install your new posts, drop bolt blocks and hang the gates (2 visits). Includes all necessary concrete and fixings.

£ 1075.20 inc vat.

Gates to have 70mm morticed and tenoned frames, rebated centre stiles

Any waste products and materials removed from site are sent for specialist recycling and are not used in landfill sites

Our standard terms for supply only are payment with order please, or 50% deposit, balance on completion for supply and fit. Current lead time is about 5-6 weeks.

We are approved by Suffolk Trading Standards and are part of their Trusted Trader scheme.

[Please follow the link for full details of the scheme and to read our reviews.](#)

Yours Sincerely

Neil MacDonald

Unit 2, Uplandside
Manor Road
Clopton
Suffolk
IP13 6SH

sales@countryside-gates.co.uk
www.countryside-gates.co.uk
01473 735005

Quotation No:Q2277

Hingham Gates Engineering Ltd
16 De Lucy Close
Diss
Norfolk. IP22 4YL
07557403599
info@hinghamgates.co.uk

Current Lead Time is Approximately 8-10 Weeks

Name: Nick
Address: St Marys Church, Coddendam

Date: 8th July 2026

To remove and replace existing oak posts with the two new posts you already have £1095.00 Plus VAT

To supply and fit one pair of replica gates based on your photo and the existing kissing gate. Complete with matching ironworks gates, gates to open outwards and to be secured whilst open

Finished @ 58mm

In Iroko £3420.00 Plus VAT

In Seasoned Oak £4220.00 Plus VAT

Finished @ 70mm

In Iroko £3570.00 Plus VAT

In Seasoned Oak £4470.00 Plus VAT

Leadtimes may vary from the time on your quotation. You will be put in the diary on the day you pay the deposit. By paying the deposit you agree to our terms and conditions.

Please check our website for our Terms and conditions
E & OE

Should you wish to proceed with this quotation we would need a email advising us of this along with a 20% payment upfront to the bank details below.

Hingham Gates Engineering Ltd
Account Number : 05158078
Sort Code: 60-83-71

VAT is chargeable on all items at the current rate.
VAT Registration No. 457445762