

Date**Ellingham****Kirby Cane**

902 -918	Guthrum II
918	Death of King Eohric, Danish King of East Anglia died in battle against Edward the Elder. East Anglia brought under Wessex rule.
959-75	King Edgar 924-927 Athelstan, son of Edward the Elder, it was he who decreed that everyone who wished to be considered a thane should build a bell tower. This may have been the origin of Kirby Cane church tower. Athelstan was succeeded by his half-brother Edmund I (936-946)
1000	From this date there were new raids. The English paid huge Danegeld (a tax raised to pay the Vikings) to prevent attacks. In 1011 it was a massive £48000 and still being collected until the reign of King Henry II.
1010	Thorkell the Tall's Danish troops sacked Ipswich and burned Thetford and Cambridge. The destruction of the monasteries left little record of what happened in East Anglia under the Danes.
1013	Swein Forkbeard, the Danish King ruled all of England. England was divided into administrative units called shires, and Ellingham and Kirby Cane were for the first time considered to be part of the shire of the Northfolk (Norfolk). Swein was father of Cnut.
1014	A great tide caused much flooding of the river valleys. Emma of Normandy (c985—1052) daughter of Richard I, Duke of Normandy, married Aethelred II (the Unready) in 1002, adopting the English name of AElfgiu, and when widowed in 1017 married Cnut. She had 3 sons, Edward the Confessor, Alfred and Harthncnut. She was active in politics and supported Christianity
1016	King Cnut (who was king of Norway and Denmark as well) divided England into four parts; Northumbria. Mercia, East Anglia and Wessex, all except the latter (which he kept for himself) having an earl over them. Thorkell the Tall (Cnut's viceroy) ruled East Anglia and was still in charge in 1019. There was peace that outlasted Cnut's death in 1035
	Between 1002 and 1023, by the Saxon Law of Promotion, Archbishop Wulfstan recorded that if a ceorl (churl), a freeman who might be a farmer or craftsman, wanted to be a thegn (thane), he would be expected to have some sort of fortification, a bell-house, a chapel and domestic buildings, 5 hides of land, and a place at the king's court then he could be considered equal in honour to a thane. Someone in Kirby began to build. Rubble and flint structures could only be built during warm weather, because lime mortar would not set in the cold, and then each section had to be allowed to dry, covered and left over winter before being continued the next year, say 5 or 6 years for a church?

