



District Councillors Report to Little Bealings Parish Council

For July 2021

Carlford and Fynn Valley Ward.

Rushmere Village, Great Bealings, Little Bealings, Playford, Bredfield, Grundisburgh & Culpho, Witnisham and Swiland, Westerfield, Hasketon, Clopton, Charsfield, Dallinghoo, Tuddenham, Boulge, Burgh, Debach, Otley.

From District Councillor

Cllr Colin Hedgley

Cycling Sessions

The Suffolk Road Safe Team are now delivering sessions for families who want to cycle more regularly, whether to keep fit, to commute to work or school, or to go and visit friends! The team can work with you to support your efforts by making sure that your riding skills are refreshed, and you have strategies for dealing with road situations that might concern you.

The session will be about 3 hours long and free of charge. They will come to you, chat about what you are trying to achieve, and then work on your route or specific challenges that you have.

Based on the National Standards for Cycling, and appropriate content from the Bikeability scheme, our fully qualified National Standard Cyclist Trainers will:

- . show you how to ride with your children so that you can help them gain confidence;
- . teach you a simple system for remembering how to deal with different road scenarios;
- . work with you to improve your safety at any junctions you use;
- . guide you in using your road position to control other road users and enhance your safety.

Priority will initially be given to families who want to cycle with their children, but whatever you require Suffolk Road Safe will endeavour to make it happen!

Please note: To ensure maximum safety during the sessions, the team have had to limit the age at which we can allow youngsters to be on the road. If you have children of 8 years old and above, the team can ride with you and them on the roads. For children 7 and below, the team will ride with parents and tell you how to ride correctly and how to protect the children as they cycle.

To book your free session, please email : CyclistTraining@suffolkhighways.org , and John Showell - Road Safety Officer (Bikeability) - will arrange for a trainer to contact you.

For more information please visit - <https://www.suffolkroadsafe.com/family-cycling-sessions>



New campaign aims to get people recycling right

As part of an ongoing drive to build the right environment for East Suffolk, a new campaign is being launched to help people get their recycling right.

East Suffolk Council is launching a new recycling campaign across its social media channels to get a better understanding of how much residents know about recycling in East Suffolk and what the Council can do to help when it comes to knowing what goes into what bin.

This comes after more than 5000 tonnes (about 24%) of recycling in East Suffolk is rejected annually due to the wrong items being placed in kerbside recycling bins, including glass, black sacks, food waste, cartons and nappies.

Cllr James Mallinder, Cabinet Member for the Environment, said: “The majority of households in East Suffolk are good at recycling, but as we continue to deal with the challenges of climate change there is still a lot more we need to do to ensure we’re recycling the right items and all doing our bit for the environment.

“Confusion can cause contamination, so we are determined to help households reduce the amount of wrong items they put in their recycling bins by making sure they know what can and cannot be recycled. This is important because there is a threshold of how much contaminated waste a truck load can have before it is rejected, so we need to make sure we are recycling right.

“The environment is one of the key principles of our strategic plan and this commitment has been further highlighted by our declaration of a climate emergency in 2019, and we all have a role to play in making better decision for the sake of our environment. By thinking about how we dispose of our waste and making the right decisions, we all contribute to a solution. These small changes in our behaviour will make a big difference over time and help us build environmentally sustainable communities.”

For more information on what can be recycled through your kerbside recycling bin or at your nearest Household Waste Recycling Centre, go to www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk/a-z-of-recycling

Dentists

You will be aware that routine dental services are being restored following closure due to Covid-19. However, these are based on clinical need as set out by national guidance that the sequencing and scheduling of patients for treatment as services resume, should take into account and consider:

- The urgency of need;
- The particular un-met needs of vulnerable groups; and



- Available capacity to undertake activity.

NHS dentists are following the advice of the Chief Dental Officer which is to prioritise urgent cases and those with outstanding treatments. Therefore, very few dental practices have the capacity to see routine examinations at the moment. Due to Covid-19 restrictions and the difficulties Covid-19 presents for dental care, the day-to-day capacity of dental practices is significantly reduced, and this is reflected in their contractual requirements which is determined nationally.

The provision of NHS dental services across the country has been limited since the 8th June and dental practices are currently providing a minimum of 60% of their activity in return for being financially remunerated at their normal pre-Covid value in accordance with national guidelines.

Patients requiring both urgent and routine NHS dental care can access services from any dental practice holding an NHS dental contract. Please note that dental practices are independent providers who hold a contract to provide NHS dental services. Dental providers manage their own practice including capacity and determine whether they are able to accept additional/new patients and therefore their lists can open and close on a frequent basis. In addition, for those patients experiencing pain and/or discomfort who may require urgent dental care, urgent dental centres (UDCs) can be accessed via NHS111.

Attending planning meetings

Due to current restrictions, there is limited public seating space at our planning meetings and therefore members of the public are encouraged to instead [watch the livestream, via YouTube](#). Anyone who believes it necessary to attend is asked to email democraticservices@eastsoffolk.gov.uk no later than 12 noon on the working day before the meeting so that the meeting can be managed in a Covid-secure way. The Democratic Services Team can endeavour to accommodate you and advise of the necessary health and safety precautions. Please note this does not guarantee a place or admittance to the meeting room.



JOIN OUR FREE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING EVENT

Families and residents of all ages are invited to come and meet their local groups, organisations and service providers to find out more about the help and support available in their local community at our covid-secure free event.

**TUESDAY 27 JULY 11AM - 2PM AT
KESGRAVE WAR MEMORIAL COMMUNITY CENTRE
TWELVE ACRE APPROACH, KESGRAVE IP5 1JF**

Free refreshments | Giveaways | Children's activities
Information to take away | Meet local services

For more information, or if you are an organisation wanting to attend to promote your services, please email stuart.halsey@eastsoffolk.gov.uk or call 07768 114421.





Protecting East Suffolk's historic environment

A new planning document has been adopted in East Suffolk to help conserve and enhance the District's historic environment.

East Suffolk Council has adopted a new Historic Environment Supplementary Planning Document (SPD), which will seek to facilitate change in a way that protects and enhances the historic environment, to support existing policies used when determining planning applications.

East Suffolk has an historic environment which is widely recognised as being of very high quality and importance, with approximate 4,000 listed buildings and 52 conservation areas. Its local character and distinctiveness are derived from the diversity of architecture, landscape and coastal settings, which have given rise to an architectural typology of farmhouses, picturesque cottages and churches as well as resort tourism, military research and defence, fishing and agri-industry, park and garden structures, energy and landed estates.

Buildings and structures that typify the East Suffolk area range from 16th century moot halls, a wide representation of 16th and 17th century farmhouses, the grandest Georgian country house in Suffolk, designed 18th and 19th century landscapes and 19th and 20th century military airfields, towers and pagodas.

The Historic Environment SPD provides comprehensive guidance on a range of topics including conservation areas, listed buildings and non-designated heritage assets and sustainable construction and renewable energy. Guidance is included about making changes and alterations to historic buildings, including extensions and alterations to a historic building, development within the setting of a historic building and replacing windows and porches.

The SPD also addresses how maintenance and repair can be undertaken in a way that protects the historic significance of a building, including repairs to different materials, such as brick, timber, thatch, wattle and daub and tiles. It also includes guidance and information about shopfronts and historic gardens, which form part of the varied heritage of East Suffolk.

Cllr David Ritchie, cabinet member for Planning and Coastal Management, said: "In East Suffolk we are fortunate to have a rich historic environment which includes a wide range of different buildings, structures and landscapes. The new Historic Environment Supplementary Planning Document will help us protect and enhance this environment by providing guidance on a range of topics to assist those undertaking repairs, alterations or extensions of historic buildings or developments that could affect such buildings."

Two rounds of consultation have informed the preparation of the SPD. The first was an initial consultation in September/October 2019 which helped to inform the scope and content of the SPD, and this was followed by public consultation on the draft SPD between December 2020 and February 2021.



View the Historic Environment Supplementary Planning Document and supporting document at www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/supplementary-planning.

Specialist accommodation created to support former rough sleepers

As part of its commitment to supporting people facing homelessness, East Suffolk Council has transformed a property in Lowestoft into specialist accommodation especially for former rough sleepers. Following a successful bid to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, East Suffolk Council received £93,312 in September 2020 through the Government's Next Steps Accommodation Programme (NSAP), to provide accommodation and support to rough sleepers during the pandemic.

An additional £389,482 was then secured from the NSAP earlier this year to provide support to rough sleepers in East Suffolk through the delivery of longer-term 'move on' accommodation. This has enabled the Council to purchase a large property in St Peter's Street and over the past few months, the Housing Maintenance Team have worked tirelessly to transform the building into a seven-bed unit of specialist, supported accommodation specifically for former rough sleepers and single homeless people.

The accommodation will be managed by Orwell Housing, who will also provide care and support for residents, many of whom need a higher level of support before they are able to live independently and sustain a tenancy of their own. The tenants will be able to stay for up to two years, ensuring they have a roof over their heads and can access the support they need to ensure they do not need to return to the streets. Cllr Richard Kerry, East Suffolk's cabinet member for Housing said: "East Suffolk Council is committed to ending homelessness and rough sleeping and this new 'move on' accommodation will assist some of the most vulnerable members of our community, enabling them to stay safe, access support and develop the skills needed to live independently.

"This project has been delivered in an incredibly short space of time, from securing funding, to sourcing a suitable property and then carrying out extensive refurbishments and we are grateful for everyone's hard work. We will continue to work closely with our partners to create appropriate and affordable solutions for those in housing need." Orwell's Chief Executive, Wendy Evans-Hendrick said: "We're really proud to be part of this fantastic project working with East Suffolk Council. The accommodation will not only provide a secure home, but also support for people to get back on their feet and make positive steps towards independent living.

"With our support, some of the most vulnerable people in the area can set foot on the path to a safer and more secure future. The benefits to those we will be supporting and the local community are great, and the speed at which this has all come together is testament to the excellent partnership working and commitment of all those involved."

Following a successful 'change of use' application to convert the property in St Peter's Street from a residential dwelling to a house of multiple occupation (HMO), substantial refurbishment works have been carried out. These include a new central heating system, rewiring of the electrics, installation of a fire protection and secure entry system, internal insulation upgrades, creation and installation of 7 ensuite shower rooms, a new kitchen, plastering, flooring and redecoration throughout. There is also an office for staff, a communal kitchen and living area and an outdoor amenity space. An official opening event was held on Monday 28 June and was attended by representatives from East Suffolk Council and Orwell Housing.

Chapel Field Grundisburgh

At the recent Planning Meeting (south) of East Suffolk Council the application for 70 houses to be built to the west of Chapel Lane Grundisburgh, was not approved until a site meeting had taken place and an independent Highway and Highway Safety investigation and report had been carried out and received by the committee.

Free parking scheme extended to support vaccination staff

To support the Covid-19 vaccination programme, East Suffolk Council will continue to offer free parking for healthcare staff working in vaccination centres across East Suffolk until the full easing of current restrictions, currently expected to be 19 July.

The extension to the parking pass only applies to those working at vaccination sites and does not extend to wider health and social care staff. Health and social care workers who need to park in resident parking zones can register for permits, known as 'carer vouchers' at www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/parking

New virtual hub for Lowestoft creatives

To enable the growing creative sector in Lowestoft to reach its full potential and attract further investment, a new Virtual Creative Hub has been launched.



Developed in response to feedback to the Council's Cultural Strategy, 'Celebrating Culture on the Edge', the Virtual Creative Hub will provide creatives with a way to network, feel more connected and access information, training and funding opportunities. These were all key requirements raised by local creatives during a consultation last year.

Funded through Arts Council England, the Virtual Hub is open to creatives who are based in Lowestoft or deliver work in the town.

Working in partnership with Suffolk County Council, a small grant scheme, part of Creative Unlimited, funded by Suffolk Inclusive Growth Investment Fund, will be available for people who engage with the Hub. Awards of up to £1,000 are available to fund materials, exhibition equipment through to digital development, marketing and promotion.

Find out more! www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/lowestoft-virtual-creative-hub/

New policy for commemorative benches in East Suffolk

We have introduced a new policy for 'commemorative' benches, the service which allows people to sponsor seating at locations in the district to remember a friend, relative or colleague who has passed.

People can sponsor a new bench with a commemorative plaque for a period of ten years in numerous locations on council land, mainly replacing existing benches that are coming to an end of practical use. The benches are located in places where everyone can sit, rest and reflect.

Members of the public who choose to commemorate someone in this way will also be encouraged to not attach any additional items to the benches. Unfortunately, these items, which can often include flowers, wreaths and balloons, can either prevent people from sitting, or make them feel uncomfortable about doing so.

Items can sometimes be left for a long period of time and can also cause environmental issues, particularly if they are not degradable.

With this in mind, we are now also kindly asking people to collect and take care of any items they may have placed on benches on council land, which they would like to keep.

New recycling campaign aims to get people recycling right

We'll be launching a new recycling campaign across the Council's social media channels soon to help our residents dispose of their waste correctly.



As part of this, we're currently carrying out a short recycling survey which all residents in East Suffolk are invited to participate in. It should only take a couple of minutes to complete and as a thank you, those taking part can opt in to enter a fantastic prize draw for a chance to win a goodie bag full of eco-friendly homewares, including metal straws, food covers and wax food wrappers, worth £42.

The survey is open until 5 July at <https://eu.surveymonkey.com/r/RecyclinginEastSuffolk>

This comes after more than 5000 tonnes (about 24%) of recycling in East Suffolk is rejected annually due to the wrong items being placed in kerbside recycling bins, including glass, black sacks, food waste, cartons and nappies.

New grant scheme puts nature first

As part of our ongoing drive to build the right environment for East Suffolk, the Greenprint Forum has launched a funding scheme for voluntary and community groups who are planning projects that help promote biodiversity.



Eligible projects could include work to restore existing habitats or create to new ones, provision of nesting/roosting places for birds, pollinators and other animals, or activities to help local people of any age learn more about and enjoy their local biodiversity.

The scheme will run over four phases during 2021/22, offering grants of up to £1,000.

The first application period is now open until 28 July 2021 and full details, including eligibility and how to apply, can be found at www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/environment/east-suffolk-greenprint-forum/supporting-community-environmental-action/nature-first-small-grants-scheme/

Free community Health and Wellbeing drop-in events

Families and residents of all ages are invited to free Health & Wellbeing events to meet their local groups, organisations and service providers to find out more about the help and service available in their local communities.

The events will be taking place across the south of the district, with the first one in Framlingham on Monday 26 July, followed by events in Kesgrave, Felixstowe, Saxmundham and Melton.

For more information, including dates and venues, go to www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/news/free-community-health-and-well-being-drop-in-events/

Surveys and consultations

We are currently running a number of surveys and consultations and, as always we want to encourage participation as feedback from people in East Suffolk is invaluable and helps us ensure we're making the right decisions for our communities.



- **Supporting older people's housing needs**
This survey will help develop a new Older People's Housing Strategy to support older people's housing needs in East Suffolk so they can continue to live fulfilling lives in the right type of housing. The survey is open until 5pm on Friday 9 July at https://eu.surveymonkey.com/r/ESC_Survey_OPHS_May2021
- **Vote for your favourite name for proposed beach village**
We have submitted a planning application for a new beach village in Felixstowe, aimed at improving the beach hut experiencing by creating accessible facilities that enables families and groups to enjoy everything the beach and town has to offer. As part of this, we're looking for a new name for the site and are asking local people to vote for their favourite out of 5 suggestions in a survey which closes at 5pm on Friday 30 July at <https://eu.surveymonkey.com/r/BeachVillage>
- **Improving recycling in East Suffolk**
As part of a wider social media campaign, we're currently running a recycling survey to get a better understanding of how much people in East Suffolk know about recycling and what we can do to help when it comes to knowing what items go into what bin. The survey is open until 5 July at <https://eu.surveymonkey.com/r/RecyclinginEastSuffolk>

Social media

We keep our communities up to date in a variety of ways and social media has an important role to play. Please follow us and share our posts with your audiences!

Facebook: www.facebook.com/eastsuffolkcouncil

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/EastSuffolk>

Cllr Colin Hedgley

Cllr Tony Fryatt