

## **At the March Cabinet Meeting last Tuesday**

### **Landguard Partnership: Extension to Agreement**

We have supported the Landguard Partnership since 2009. However, the agreement to support the partnership runs out in April 2018. It may be renewed for further 5-year periods, subject to the agreement of all members of the partnership.

Partnership members have been consulted and agreed in principle to extend their support. As part of the Agreement, SCDC contributes £18,000 a year to the Landguard Partnership.

### **Treasury Management and Investment Strategy for 2018/19**

Each year, every local authority must approve a policy strategy, which will govern its day-to-day treasury management objectives for that year. The strategy balances the need to maximise performance from investments, money market and capital market transactions, while minimising the risk to the Council's cash flows and banking. The overriding principle is security of Council's money.

Recent news: (mostly reported within last weeks report)

### **Protecting the tax payer**

Suffolk Coastal has pegged its increase in Council Tax to less than a fiver for the second year running. At its Full Council meeting on Thursday, 22 February 2018, Suffolk Coastal District Council's Members voted unanimously to set the increase in its portion of the Council Tax for the coming financial year at 3.15%.

In real money, this equates to a rise of less than £5 in Council Tax for people living in a Band D property during 2018/19.

In fact, the annual increase in Council Tax on a Band D property for next financial year, from £157.32 to £162.27, is a rise of just £4.95 (or by less than 10p a week!), which is the same as 2017/18.

But the Council remains committed to investing in the future prosperity of the District, as Suffolk Coastal's Leader, Cllr Ray Herring, explained:.

“Our financial situation is sound, because of the tough decisions we've made over the last decade to streamline our operation and become more efficient,” said Cllr Herring. “But there is no room to be complacent. There is a lot of uncertainty surrounding local authority funding from Government in the future. “This means we need to become increasingly financially self-sufficient, if we are to maintain our frontline services at their current level. We need to make more money from our existing resources, rather than relying on central Government funding.”

“This year marks a decade of successful partnership working with our colleagues in Waveney, dating back to when we were among the first councils in the country to appoint a joint Chief Executive. This partnership has created £22.5m in combined savings since 2008 – an amazing achievement when each council only has a £12million annual budget (2017/18 figures). The councils have also nearly halved their joint workforce, from 1,353 on 1 April 2008 to 733 on 1 April 2017.”

“We will continue to review our services and adopt a more commercial approach. We are confident we can deliver quality services, while continuing to make efficiency savings and investing in the future.”

Although Suffolk Coastal collects the Council Tax (on behalf of Suffolk Coastal, the County Council, Police and Town/Parish Councils), only about 10p in the pound goes towards providing our district council services.

### **Sign up for garden waste collection – now!**

Suffolk Coastal residents can now sign up to the new Garden Waste Collection Scheme.

Suffolk Coastal District Council is introducing a £43 a year charge for collecting garden waste this financial year (2018/19).

The scheme is optional, with the first paid-for collections scheduled to start from the beginning of May 2018.

It's quick and easy to sign up, either:

- Go to [my.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/MyServices](http://my.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/MyServices). You will need to register, or login to, your 'My Eastsuffolk' account and then complete the form for garden waste
- Call Customer Services on 01394 383789, and choosing option '0'.
- Or, pop in to see our Customer Service staff in the Customer Service Centre in Felixstowe and Woodbridge Libraries.

You will need a debit or credit card to pay. The fee for one bin is £43 for a year (the equivalent of paying about £1.65 per fortnightly collection). You can place your order now and don't forget to say 'YES' to the upgrade.

Cllr Carol Poulter, Suffolk Coastal's Cabinet Member with responsibility for the Green Environment explained:

“Although the new paid-for Garden Waste Scheme doesn't start until May, we are urging people to sign up now to avoid a last minute rush to join,”

“This is a completely voluntary scheme, but people have to opt into the scheme and pay the annual fee. This will not happen automatically. Basically, if you have not joined the scheme by the beginning of May, your garden waste will not be collected by us.”

“People will obviously be able to join later in the year but, the best way to make sure there is no gap in the service, is to join up now and your membership will run from this May to 30 April 2019.”

One of the key benefits from joining the Suffolk Coastal Garden Waste Scheme is that subscribers will also be given the option of receiving a free, larger (240 litre)

green bin for their garden waste (240 litres is the most common wheeled bin size, but the current brown organic waste bins in Suffolk Coastal are 140 litres).

The new, larger green bins are expected to be delivered during the autumn (2018) to those residents who request one and have subscribed to the garden waste service.

At this stage, subscribers to the Garden Waste Collection Scheme will be able to continue to put organic domestic waste (such as food waste) in with their garden waste.

Suffolk Coastal currently collects about 50,000 tonnes of domestic household waste a year. About one third of this (about 15,000 tonnes) is organic waste. This is co-mingled garden (estimated 13,000 tonnes) and food (estimated 2,000 tonnes) waste.

The remaining waste is made up of general 'residual' waste at 22,000 tonnes (44%) and dry recycling at about 13,000 tonnes (26%).

The co-mingled organic waste (food waste collected together with garden waste) collected by Suffolk Coastal Norse for Suffolk Coastal is currently processed into an agricultural soil improver at an in-vessel (IVC) composting facility at Parham.

This organic waste processing contract ends on 31st March 2019, so a new contract is required to provide waste processing arrangements from April 2019 onwards.

Suffolk Coastal District Council is planning to deliver one of its most sizeable and ambitious capital investment programmes to date with an estimated value of about £30m, without relying on any external borrowing.

Cllr Poulter continued:

"The reality is that Suffolk Coastal protected the 'free' collection of garden waste for as long as it could,"

"The key thing that people need to realise is that this is about us protecting local services and being able to keep Council Tax increases down to a minimum. Any funds raised from the garden waste collection service will be re-invested in providing services to local people."

"Suffolk Coastal remains committed to an ambitious programme of community-based and major capital investments, such as the current leisure redevelopment, in the coming years. So we need to continue to generate income where we can, now and in the future."

*If you choose not to join the optional Garden Waste Collection Scheme – then please compost!*

The Suffolk Waste Partnership, which includes Suffolk Coastal District Council, funds a scheme making home compost bins available at subsidised prices from as little as £8.99 for a 220 litre compost bin or £9.99 for a 330 litre bin.

The scheme also includes subsidies on several composting systems which can deal with some cooked food waste. To order a home compost bin or to see more details, visit the [Get Composting website](#) or call 0844 571 4444 quoting SUF 17L.

In addition, all households will be invited to keep and re-use any unwanted brown bins if they wish. The bins are suitable for a number of alternative uses, including composting.

*Local people are being urged to: 'Be kind to the environment and re-purpose your brown bins'*

Wheeled bins can be put to use in many different ways such as: tool storage, feed store, water butt and compost bin to name a few, and there will be other ideas on our website shortly.

Please consider whether you would like to keep your brown bins after the upgrade. You can tell us if you want us to remove them when you subscribe to the scheme. We will let you know later about when to present your unwanted brown bins for removal.

You can find more information about the garden waste scheme, composting and re-purposing your old brown bin in the [Garden Waste section of this website](#).

(there is high demand on the telephones at the moment, so please do bare with the team)

**ESP Board meeting 07.03.18 The Greenprint forum presented to the board on the below and also TJ gave an update on getting younger people heard on different boards/groups etc.**

**There will be a Youth Conference at East Suffolk House on April 11<sup>th</sup> where all high school/college age young adults are invited to come and contribute at the conference. No need to book 11.30-2pm**

**Most people were appalled by the shocking scenes of how plastic is polluting our seas, choking the lives out of our aquatic wildlife, recently shown on Blue Planet II.**

Now is your chance to join the dedicated band of public-spirited people who are taking positive action to fight against the scourge of plastic in our society.

Suffolk Coastal District Council will be hosting a special event, entitled 'Plastics know your place in the community', at its offices in East Suffolk House, Melton (IP12 1RT), from 6pm to 9pm on Wednesday, 28 March.

The event is being staged by the Greenprint Forum – which has designated 2018 as its year of #plasticaction.

Andrew Cassy, Chairman of the Greenprint Forum, explained:

“Our vision is for the people of east Suffolk to work together to improve our quality of life and living standards, while reducing our environmental impact.

We have a wide range of complimentary environmental goals but have decided to focus on taken action on plastic this year, because there is a significant and widely recognised need to act now both here in east Suffolk and across the world.

Taking action on plastic now is one small but important step in a long improvement journey. Our aim is to work to ensure the use of plastics is tightly controlled and everyone takes responsibility to reduce the impact of their activities on the natural environment”.

The Greenprint Forum is a voluntary network facilitated by Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils to help deliver their [business plan](#) specifically enabling community environmental action to improve lives and strengthen our economy.

Cllr Carol Poulter, Suffolk Coastal’s Cabinet Member for the Green Environment, said

“Many people will have been inspired to take action by Blue Planet II and other recent publicity, highlighting the damage we are doing to the planet by letting plastic escape into nature.

This event gives local people more information about the situation in this area, as well as giving them the opportunity to be inspired by the personal stories and experiences of others”.

This event supports two of Suffolk Coastal’s aims in its Business Plan - ‘Protecting, enhancing and making sustainable use of our environment’; and, ‘a diverse mix of resilient and supportive communities that value their rural and coastal heritage; which feel engaged, valued and empowered; and where people’s needs are met and where they can make a difference to their community.’

The ‘Plastics know your place in the community’ event is open to all – but booking is essential.

Please [book online](#) or call 01394 444747.

[More information](#) on the Greenprint Forum and its forthcoming events.

The event is being organised by Suffolk Coastal District Council and primarily sponsored by the East Suffolk Partnership, with the University of Suffolk contributing as part of their Sustainable Community outreach programme. There will be an opportunity to buy artwork, tea, litter pick sticks and other relevant goodies. Food will be provided.

### **Women's Tour comes back to east Suffolk**

The OVO Energy Women's Tour will return to Suffolk this June, as the county hosts the opening stage to the UCI Women's WorldTour race on Wednesday 13 June.

Over 100 of the world's top cyclists will race from Framlingham to Southwold, home of race sponsors Adnams, taking in a 130-kilometre route through Suffolk, including Wickham Market, Woodbridge, Ipswich, Stowmarket and Halesworth.

It will mark the fourth time that Britain's biggest women's cycling event has returned to the county, and in a boost for fans there will also be a chance to ride much of the route, in the OVO Energy Tour Ride sportive event supporting Breast Cancer Care on Sunday 1 July.

We are delighted to be hosting the opening stage of this year's OVO Energy Women's Tour, welcoming the tour back to Suffolk for a fourth year. The race will showcase Suffolk's heritage and iconic landmarks, bringing major investment into the county. It will also encourage more people to take up cycling and live a more active and healthy lifestyle, contributing to our ambition to make Suffolk England's most active county.

"It will be an event that everyone can celebrate and enjoy."

In a joint statement, Cllr TJ Haworth-Culf, Suffolk Coastal District Council's Cabinet Member for Customers, Communities and Leisure and Cllr Michael Ladd, Waveney District Council's Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Tourism said:

"We are thrilled to be welcoming the OVO Energy Women's Tour to the area once again, particularly as we will be hosting both the start and finish of the opening stage in east Suffolk.

"This popular event brings many visitors to our region and provides a real boost to the local economy. As always, we will be working closely with local communities, businesses and schools to get them involved with Tour-related activities."

Commenting on the news, Emma Hibbert, Marketing Director of Adnams said: '

'Adnams has supported the Women's Tour and Tour of Britain for a number of years and is delighted to welcome the professional riders back to Suffolk and in particular Southwold. It is a real credit to the County and the support of the local community that we are able to host a full stage in the County. 2018 is set to be an exciting year for cycling in Suffolk, with the addition of the Tour Ride and other cycling events to the calendar.'

Stage One will start from the centre of Framlingham, re-visiting the town midway through the stage as a bonus for spectators, with the finish coming on Southwold's Promenade, just yards away from where the race began in 2016.

Commenting on the announcement, Race Director Mick Bennett said:

"We are delighted that the Grand Départ of the 2018 OVO Energy Women's Tour will take place in Suffolk, a county that has enthusiastically supported the race since the inaugural edition four years ago. Upon departing Framlingham, this stage will take in many roads that have featured in both the Women's Tour and OVO Energy Tour of Britain in recent years, while the finish on Southwold's North Parade looks tailor-made for a fast and thrilling bunch sprint."

Claire Pulford, Head of Events at Breast Cancer Care said:

"We are absolutely delighted to be partnering with the OVO Energy Women's Tour for a second year.

"It is particularly exciting for Breast Cancer Care to be involved in this year's OVO Energy Tour Ride. More than 500 people in Suffolk will be diagnosed with breast cancer this year\* and the funds raised from the Tour Ride will help our charity continue to support and make a positive difference to these people and the lives of the thousands of people facing breast cancer in the UK."

In total 17 teams will compete in the 2018 OVO Energy Women's Tour, including four British squads, Wiggle HIGH5, Trek Drops, WNT Rotor and Storey Racing, with the riders set to compete in the race being announced during the early summer.

Two weeks after the race a special sportive will take place on Sunday 1 July, starting and finishing in Southwold, giving members of the public the chance to ride one of two routes, both of which will use the Stage One route. Further details of the OVO Energy Tour Ride supporting Breast Cancer Care, including how to enter are available on the [Tour Ride website](#).

A one-hour highlights programme of every stage will be broadcast daily on ITV4 and Eurosport and available on demand via the ITV Hub and Eurosport Player. The OVO Energy Women's Tour is a part of the UCI Women's WorldTour, comprising 23 events around the world in 10 different countries.

**Safety advice on east Suffolk beaches**

Dog walkers are reminded to take extra care when visiting the coast following further reports of palm oil and the ongoing risk from Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning.

We are continuing to receive reports of palm oil along the Suffolk coastline and whilst it is not toxic, it can cause illness in animals if ingested in quantity. Palm oil can be reported by calling 01502 527100, supplying an exact location.

Dog owners are also reminded to take precautions against Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning (PSP), a naturally occurring marine biotoxin, after a small number of pet deaths in the region. There is no risk to people or pets from the seawater - the only risk is from ingesting PSP-contaminated animals found on the beach.

Dog walkers are advised to take precautions to prevent their pets from eating anything found on the beach. This may include keeping dogs under close control, on leads or muzzled if considered appropriate, while walking along the coast.

Additionally, following recent bad weather and the potential for coastal erosion, those visiting the beach are asked to take extra care when walking on or below the cliffs.

### **Suffolk Coastal Business and Community Awards Winners**

The 2018 Suffolk Coastal Business & Community Awards took place on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March at The Hangar, Kesgrave Hall. Organised by Suffolk Coastal District Council, the Awards celebrated the business and community initiatives and successes that have taken place in Suffolk Coastal over the last 18 months.

The evening was hosted for a fourth time by Steve Allen a comedian, writer and presenter of BBC2's The Mash Report and opened with a drinks reception sponsored by Gotelee Solicitors. Parker Communications provided a stunning set and flawless AV support throughout.

With a record number of entries for the awards this year, the judges had a tough job to shortlist the finalists and agree the winners. On the night there were more than 70 businesses and groups represented alongside the many individual finalists and distinguished guests.

Archway Carpets, Framlingham Business Association, Poppy's Pantry and Felixstowe & Walton United FC were among the winners. A total of thirteen awards were presented throughout the evening, covering categories including Customer Focus, Services to the Community, People Development, Encouraging Tourism and Business Growth (full list below). The winners received an engraved trophy and all the finalists were awarded a bottle of Adnams Prosecco with their certificates.

Cllr TJ Haworth-Culf, Cabinet Member for Customers, Communities and Leisure at Suffolk Coastal District Council, described the evening:



“I am always surprised and heartened not just by the dedication and energy that people show in supporting their local communities, but also in the breadth of the ways that our winners find to help and support the community. I would like to thank them all, as well as all those who nominated them for these awards.

A big thank you also goes to our sponsors. The way these awards continue to go from strength to strength says a great deal about the fantastic community spirit across Suffolk Coastal and is one of the reasons this is such a fantastic place to live.”

As always please do get in touch.

TJ