

Good evening,

Cllr Jones sends her apologies.

I won't repeat everything within the body of this report again but will just cover a few points below.

As previously reported, planning applications/referrals etc keep us very busy. Please do continue to get in touch if either one of us can help you in any way.

Many people contact me during the evenings, bank holidays and weekends and I always try to respond straight away. Many people also contact me (TJ) via social media and a good example of that was a couple of weekends ago some delightful person decided (again sadly) to smear ketchup over the Aldeburgh gents public toilet walls and block the urinals and toilet with chips etc, after receiving a text I contacted Norse and they were out on the Sunday to clean up/repair. If anyone has any information regarding who may be responsible for the vandalism please do let one of us know.

As a general idea about how we spend some of our time we thought you'd like to see a snap shot of what we've been up to in the past month. Please note though that the below certainly doesn't include everything eg daily planning, emails, calls, decisions, agendas/minutes/papers/general meetings etc. It should be noted that 99.9% of the below our Ward is always at the forefront of our minds, compared to/with and always represented.

TJ

06.04.18	Telephone call to ATC re anything we could help with/issues etc.
w/end	ECB's etc
09.04.18	Chaired Comms Branding (morning)
10.04 – 15.04	Holiday
16.04.18	Friston Parish Council meeting + presentation from SPR
17.04.18	Meeting at ESH, drop in at session at Leiston re regeneration (Leiston Together) Knodishall Parish Council meeting, Cabinet Briefing.
18.04.18	Drive Team (Alde Valley Acc) and briefings/meeting
19.04.18	Weekly drive/walk about whole of ward. Chairman reception
20.04.18	Felixstowe re beach levels etc
21.04.18	(Saturday) Marltesham – presentation re Exemplar & ECB grant
22.04.18	(Sunday) Woman on Wheels @ Rock Barracks
23.04.18	Felixstowe re beach work/huts & Deben Pool
24.04.18	6am ESH – Trip to Hinkley Point C
25.04.18	Hinkley
25.04.18	Deben Leisure Centre – Visit around centre etc/checking on progress. Planning.
26.04.18	Judged poster competition re Womens Tour
27.04.18	weekly drive/walk about
Weekend	Approved ECB's Message etc re blocked loos – vandalism
30.04.18	Simultaneous Full Council Meeting
01.05.18	Cabinet Meeting
02.05.18	Alde Valley Acc – Interviews

03.05.18 Leisure Project Board/briefing
 04.05.18 Right to Bid Hearing
 Weekend ECBs Ward Drive/walk about
 Yacht pond/signage messages (email to ATC)
 08.05.18 Teleconf re SPR. Presentation at ATC EDF
 09.05.18 Check on Thorpeness Beach etc re works being BF
 10.05.18 Chaired Exemplar Panel Meeting & signed decision notice/s
 SAG info re TEN for Drumz Summer Festival
 Tour Input re Letter to Minister.
 11.05.18 Chaired Young Peoples Group.
 Weekend ECB's Drive/walk about
 14.05.18 ATC ACM and Thorpeness PC
 15.05.18 Knodishall APM Cabinet Briefing (afterwards if time allows)

Maureen

Attended Riverside to discuss proposed new building site for affordable housing in Thorpeness and how far we are CLT
 Attended meeting with AONB and Russ Rainger and Tony Cooper to award Galloper funding to various organisations.
 Thorpeness PC
 Friston PC
 Attended meetings on 2 occasions with Westleton Chairman of PC and Chairman of Local Residents Association (acting on behalf of Raymond Catchpole.)
 Attended meeting with Aldeburgh residents concerning New proposed house in Wentworth Road.
 Attended Planning Meeting most of the day.
 Attended Sizewell C meeting
 Attended joint Council meeting at High Lodge
 Attended Thorpeness PC groups meeting we now have 2 per month to look at Planning etc
 Sorted out problems with Road sweeping in Thorpeness
 Looked into Allotment problem at Aldringham
 Spoke to Bill Parker and Paul Patterson regarding state of beach at Thorpeness
 Did leaflet drop in Leiston with T J.
 Attended Sizewell B meeting with AONB, SCC Andrew Reid and Paul Moreton regarding and awarding EDF grants to various organisations
 Attended Open Meeting regarding Leiston together etc
 Attended Local Plan Meeting
 Attended another meeting with SCDC members, Land Owners, CLT set up and proposed way forward for land at Thorpeness.
 Attended Exemplar Grant Panel meeting

Last week the Exemplar panel looked at 5 exemplar applications where grants up to £10,000.00 can be applied for more details and information on both of the grants are available on our website or get please get in touch with one of us if you have or know of a worthy project for an exemplar or ECB grant.

You will note from my list above a mention about the SAG meeting where 3 x TENS had been applied for regarding a Drumz Summer Festival to be held over the river (the same applied for an events license approx. 2 years ago which was rejected;

many people wrote in regarding it) After advising the 'Aldeburgh ward' and the surrounding ward along with other discussions it seems from the event website that it has now been cancelled.

I (TJ) also spent two days (JLAG trip, along with Cllr Rainger) in Somerset viewing and hearing from the DC and County counterparts about Hinkley Point C to gain impacts and understanding. We had a guided tour around the site on day 2 before returning back to Suffolk. Cllr Rainger and I both represented our wards with questions and comments.

I, Maureen & Cllr Rainger have all contributed towards a letter sent to Greg Clark, SoS, regarding the collective views regarding Sizewell C, SPR and the National Grid Interconnectors developments and how they should be reviewed as one package in the future.

Just to make you aware that the Beach wheelchair in Thorpe Road, Aldeburgh will be undergoing maintenance/repairs soon – approx. w/c 04.06. New signs are in the process of being made; instructions & contact number. It will then receive regular checks and maintenance.

Can we take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support and hard work that you do for the community and wish you another successful and productive year.

TJ

Already reported:

East Suffolk gets the go ahead

The Rt Hon Sajid Javid, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government agreed to the creation of a new 'super district council' for east Suffolk.

In a written statement, the Secretary of State said:

“Having carefully considered all the representations I have received and all the relevant information available to me, I am today announcing that I have decided to implement, subject to Parliamentary approval, both proposals – that is to merge Suffolk Coastal and Waveney district councils to become a new single district council named East Suffolk.”

Mr Javid has also confirmed the merger of Forest Heath District Council and St Edmundsbury Borough Council to become a new single district council named West Suffolk.

Welcoming the news, the Leaders of Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Council, Cllrs Ray Herring and Mark Bee, said in a joint statement:

“This is a truly momentous decision for us and for the people of east Suffolk. Although this announcement is a national first, for us in east Suffolk it is the next logical step on a decade-long journey. We are used to breaking new ground, as we

have been finding innovative ways to cut costs and manage our business since Suffolk Coastal and Waveney started working in partnership 10 years ago.”

“We have already made over £18million in efficiency savings and halved our joint workforce, while still investing in our communities. The creation of an East Suffolk Council will enable us to build on this decade of co-operation to give greater value for money, while continuing to improve service delivery.”

Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils both voted to approve the proposal to create a brand new ‘super district’ council, delivering services to communities in the east of the county, in January 2017. A business case was then submitted to the Department of Communities and Local Government in February 2017.

In November, 2017, the Secretary of State for Communities & Local Government issued a written statement to the House of Commons confirming that he is ‘minded to’ support the proposals of Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils to create a new single authority for the area.

At the same time, he has announced there would be a period of time, running until 8 January 2018, during which those interested could make further representation to him, including making any suggested modifications to the proposals. He has now considered all the comments he received and decided to officially back the plan, which will now be subject to Parliamentary approval.

This is the first time that the Secretary of State has given his backing to such a plan and now gives the councils the go ahead to proceed with getting everything in place to create the a new council by May 2019.

“We have a proud record of achieving success through innovative partnership working between Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Council. We are glad that the Secretary of State has recognised this in agreeing the creation of this new ‘super district’ for east Suffolk,”

said Cllrs Herring and Bee,

“We need to evolve, if we are to successfully address the shared opportunities and challenges that both councils face. There have been significant reductions in Central Government funding for councils, but we need to be able to drive and invest in growth and infrastructure projects, as well as providing more much-needed housing. “A larger, more influential East Suffolk Council will enable us to fulfill our potential in driving development, while keeping costs low.”

With the Secretary of State’s agreement, the new Council would come into being, and begin operations, following the local council elections in May 2019. The two existing councils will then be formally dissolved with elections to the new authority.

Register for Garden Waste Collection – Now Schedule starts May 2018

We are urging people who have not as yet signed up to register an interest in joining Suffolk Coastal’s Garden Waste Collection Service to do so.

At its Cabinet meeting in December 2017, Suffolk Coastal decided to introduce a charge for collecting garden waste from homes during next financial year (2018/19).

People in Suffolk Coastal will be given the option of paying an annual charge of £43 per garden waste bin (the equivalent of paying about £1.65 per fortnightly collection).

This is a completely voluntary scheme, which people will have to opt to join (rather than residents automatically becoming part of the scheme).

The first paid-for collections are scheduled to start from the beginning of May 2018, with local residents able to subscribe for the new service from 1 March 2018 and we will email them when the subscription service is live.

However, in the meantime, people can register by completing a simple online form.

The reality is that Suffolk Coastal District Council protected the 'free' collection of garden waste for as long as it could. In 2015, when most of the councils across Suffolk and Norfolk introduced charging, we decided to maintain the 'free' garden waste collection service and to bear the cost of reduced Recycling Performance Payment support, despite the financial pressures on the Council. However, at the time, we did recognise that this is a discretionary service that we provide and we always said we would have to keep this decision under review.

Suffolk Coastal District Council is under increasing pressure financially, with dwindling support from central Government. Next year (2018/19), we are faced with a budget gap of over £2.8 million.

Providing the organic waste collection and composting service currently costs Suffolk Coastal over £1.2 million a year. This cost has been exacerbated by the £200,000 per year reduction in support for recycling organic waste previously provided by Suffolk County Council.

The East Suffolk Business Plan identifies the need for us to become increasingly financially-self-sufficient in the future.

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 and reducing our budget gap. 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 identify strong income streams, now and in the future.

Later in the year, subscribers to the scheme 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.

To find out about Suffolk Coastal garden and food waste collection:
<http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/waste/waste-collections-and-disposal/garden-waste/suffolk-coastal-garden-and-food-waste-collection/>

Looking back...

Suffolk Coastal elected a new Chairman and Vic Chairman

Cllr Chris Blundell was elected as our new Chairman along with Vice-chairman Nicky Yeo. Cllr Blundell, who represents the Martlesham Ward took over the post from Cllr Mark Newton. I'm sure you will join us in thanking both of them for their ongoing hard work for the district and we wish Cllr Yeo a very happy and successful year ahead.

Thanks for your support at the Suffolk Show.

Thank you to all that attended or helped at our Get Active in Suffolk Coastal stand within the sports village at the Suffolk Show. The show also gave us the opportunity to inform people about the Leisure Redevelopment Programme and meet our operators, Places for People Leisure and to also find out more about our other events happening this summer, including Women On Wheels (now to take place in April 2018) and Operation Camouflage and of course the Tour of Britain which finished in Aldeburgh in September.

Officially opened East Suffolk

Suffolk Coastal District Council's new headquarters in Melton were officially opened and over 100 guests were present to see the Lord-Lieutenant of Suffolk, Clare, Countess of Euston, carry out the opening duties – amid praise for the design of the new building. The new offices were achieved without creating any extra tax burden on local people and now have offices that should create significant long-term saving for the tax payer. We have now got a modern, energy-efficient headquarters, which will enable us to continue to provide a high quality of service to local people.

Suffolk Day Thursday 21st June 2018

On Wednesday, 21st June 2017, we had our first celebration for our wonderful county where Suffolk Day celebrated Suffolk's history, art and culture, cutting edge technology, stunning coastline, wildlife, food and drink, businesses, sport, university – the list goes on and on. This year scores of fun events will take place across the county once again in celebration of the wonderful county we visit, work, enjoy and call home.

We launched our first ever Summer photo competition in east Suffolk

As you know Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils have been working in partnership since 2008 and to reflect this, we wanted to celebrate east Suffolk as a great place to live, work and visit with the new East Suffolk Photo Competition.

The competition has four categories: - Living in east Suffolk - Working in east Suffolk
- Explore east Suffolk - Under 16s (in any category)

The competition proved to be a huge success and congratulations once again to our winners and many thanks to all those that sent in their wonderful photos via Instagram – keep an eye out for this years competition.

We Saluted our Suffolk Armed Forces

Thousands of people flocked to the seaside town of Felixstowe for a fun-filled weekend celebrating Suffolk Armed Forces Weekend 2017.

The action-packed event was hosted this year by Suffolk Coastal District Council in June.

As well as providing fun for all the family, the event had a serious side - recognising the huge contribution made by our servicemen and women, as well as marking the important 350th anniversary of the Dutch attack on Landguard Fort (which was the last time foreign forces launched an armed landing on English soil).

We would like to once again thank the many volunteers, who gave up their weekend to make the two days so much fun for everyone else and the organising committee for their hard work and dedication to creating this enjoyable weekend.

Started the work to transform Deben Leisure Centre

Deben Pool closed on Thursday 31 August and work started on Monday 4 September for a 10 month period to transform the facility into a state-of-the-art leisure centre.

The new leisure centre has been designed with the Council's leisure development partner, Pulse Fitness and operators Places for People Leisure and includes a new, spacious gym, featuring modern equipment and the pool area will feature a new health suite with a steam room, sauna and ice room.

Suffolk Coastal's investment of £2.5 million in the new leisure centre has been boosted by £500,000 in Sport England National Lottery Funding.

The work to develop the leisure centre is part of the Council's five year programme to improve leisure facilities for the district and to encourage more people to become more active.

We would like to thank members of Deben Pool for their support for the redevelopment so far. During the closure, members and visitors can use our other facilities at Leiston, Felixstowe and Brackenbury.

A key part of our Business Plan focuses on increasing access to quality leisure facilities and activities as part of our commitment to getting more people fit and active. We hope Deben will be the ignition for our complete leisure redevelopment to create facilities our communities can be truly proud of.

We love apprentices in east Suffolk!

Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils are celebrating the impact of apprentices within the two councils after recruiting a record number this summer. The apprenticeship scheme has become well established within the two councils with 43 trained since 2012. Even once their apprenticeships have been completed,

70% of apprentices over the last three years have stayed with the Councils to develop bright careers within the authorities.

Several of these have gone on to undertake further qualifications within their chosen field, including level 3 apprenticeships in Business admin and Customer Services, level 4 professional qualifications in Housing, and one young person who joined us in 2012 has recently completed a level 5 qualification in HR.

Apprentices are currently working in service areas across the two districts, including HR, planning, housing, finance, legal and Active Communities, with 13 new recruits joining the councils earlier this month. In return, we offer them all a business based, supported recognised qualification, a modern working environment, generous annual leave entitlements and valuable work based skills from day one.

Celebrated older residents on Silver Sunday

Older residents from across East Suffolk were invited to take part in a number of free activities as part of a national campaign to reduce loneliness.

Silver Sunday is an annual celebration of older people and raises awareness of the social isolation which affects so many. To mark the occasion, free events and activities took place in Suffolk Coastal and Waveney and older residents are encouraged to get involved and try something new.

As detailed in our Business Plan, we want our communities to thrive and for our older residents to feel supported, healthy and engaged. Silver Sunday is a great opportunity to celebrate our older people and ensure their invaluable contribution to society is not overlooked. Along with partner organisations, we are working to combat social isolation and loneliness, which can have a devastating effect on people's physical and mental wellbeing. More details for 2018 Silver Sunday coming soon.

Cycling on the prom at Felixstowe

SCDC ran a year-long trial and consultation which allowed cycling on Felixstowe Promenade after a request from Felixstowe Town Council

After running the consultation, to which over 500 people responded, it was therefore recommended to Full Council that SCDC removed the notices prohibiting cycling on the Prom at Felixstowe to allow all to safely enjoy the promenade.

East Suffolk Partnership

The East Suffolk Partnership celebrated its fifth annual Forum with over 200 people attending the fully booked event at Trinity Park.

The theme "Unlocking the potential of growth in east Suffolk" focused on the idea of "inclusive growth". Inclusive growth is an important for promoting economic growth for the benefit of everyone - and we explored how to deliver economic growth while improving local services, supporting communities and protecting the environment.

The important annual event offered excellent networking opportunities and gave delegates the chance to participate in a collaborative approach to working in east Suffolk. Through a programme of presentations, workshops and seminars delegates examined how individuals and communities in East Suffolk can connect to, and feel the benefits from, economic growth.

The East Suffolk Partnership (ESP) attracts people from local communities, voluntary organisations, public services, businesses and local government and encourages them to work together for the benefit of east Suffolk.

Dog Control - Public Space Protection Orders

The Council considered the outcomes from the pre-consultation exercise and the public consultation on the introduction on the draft Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) which outline dog controls in the district. Town and Parish Councils and the public were consulted on the seven proposed PSPOs which replace the existing by-laws, enactments and a local "order" in the Suffolk Coastal District which impose requirements on dog owners. As well as updating controls, PSPOs also provide a more effective and efficient way of dealing with these types of offence through the issue of a Fixed Penalty Notice. The benefit of this approach is that controls, such as the prohibition of dogs on certain beaches during the summer months, can be more effectively enforced through the issue of Fixed Penalty Notices rather than by way of prosecution. This isn't about banning dogs everywhere. It's about replacing the existing laws to protect specific places where problems have been raised, with a more effective way of ensuring people control nuisance dogs. For instance; · Keeping dogs on leads at Landguard Point nature reserve – subject to time of year · Banning dogs from gated and fenced children's play areas · Excluding dogs on Aldeburgh and Felixstowe beach – at certain specified times

System recognised with second national award

The hi-tech system, developed by Suffolk Coastal Port Health Authority for handling imports at the Port of Felixstowe, has been shortlisted for another national award. The Port Health Interactive Live Information System (PHILIS) has been shortlisted for a Local Government Chronicle Award in the Innovation Category.

This is the second time the software system has been shortlisted, after it was named a finalist in the Technological Innovation category of the APSE Environmental Services Innovation Awards 2017 in October.

Since its development and launch at Suffolk Coastal's Port Health Authority in September 2009, PHILIS has been developed to incorporate a scanning module to handle the high volumes of paperwork and original certification that accompanies imported food consignments.

In addition to benefiting the Port Health service at Felixstowe, the software has now been licenced to all of the major sea ports: London, Mersey and Southampton. During 2016/17, the system has also been developed by the team to manage animal welfare requirements at Heathrow's Animal Reception Centre (HARC).

The system now:

- Manages 85% of food imported into the UK from outside of the EU
- Supports 100 users operating from 4 Port Health Authorities and HARC
- Handles over 3million containers a year through the 4 ports
- Has delivered at least a 20% saving in officer time at Felixstowe
- Scans around 1 million documents a year
- Generates income for the Council through licence fees

Prosecuted a resident who landed up with a criminal record for waste offence

Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils reminded householders that they have a legal responsibility, or duty of care, to prevent their waste from being fly-tipped after a resident pleaded guilty to a waste offence.

The resident pleaded guilty to an offence of failing to fulfil his duty of care towards household waste contrary to Section 34(2A) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 in March 2017 from his address. The case was brought to court after twenty sacks of general, unsorted household waste which were found to have been fly-tipped.

We would therefore urge anyone who arranges for any waste to be taken away from their home by anyone other than the Council's service partners Suffolk Coastal Norse or Waveney Norse, to remember the "Scrap Code", to avoid being held responsible, and risk acquiring a criminal record, should their waste end up fly-tipped."

- S: Suspect. Beware of rogue waste carriers – reputable companies do not usually make direct approaches. If in any doubt as to whether someone is a legitimate waste carrier, do not allow them to take your waste.
- C: Check. Ask for their waste carrier registration details, and verify them by checking [the online register](https://environment.data.gov.uk/public-register/view/search-waste-carriers-brokers) (https://environment.data.gov.uk/public-register/view/search-waste-carriers-brokers) or by calling 03708 506 506. Always note down the registration number of the vehicle used to take your waste away.
- R: Refuse unsolicited offers to have any rubbish taken away. Always carry out your own research and choose who you wish to approach. Legitimate waste carriers are unlikely to seek business by going door-to-door.
- A: Ask questions. Always ask what exactly is going to happen to your rubbish and seek evidence that it is going to be disposed of appropriately. A legitimate, professional waste carrier who wants your business should not object to being asked reasonable questions.
- P: Paperwork. Make sure you get a proper receipt containing the written information for your waste. This should include what has been removed, and where it will be going. Make sure the Company or tradesman's details are included.

If you see someone fly-tipping in Suffolk Coastal or Waveney, please report it in confidence online at: www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/waste/fly-tipping/how-to-report-fly-tipping

Or by calling Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils on 01394 383789 or 01502 562111, or email environment@eastsuffolk.gov.uk.

More information for Suffolk householders, landowners, and businesses about how they can help prevent and tackle fly-tipping is available on the Suffolk Recycling website: www.greensuffolk.org/recycling/fly-tipping

Ran and judged a local competition for a new piece of Art Work at East Suffolk House commission

Suffolk Coastal marked their first year in their new headquarters and were looking for a new and exciting piece of art to be displayed in the reception area which reflects Suffolk Coastal as a district, drawing on aspects of the East Suffolk Business Plan and compliments the architecture of the building.

Emma Green who lives locally in Woodbridge was picked by Suffolk Coastal staff and councillors to create a unique piece of work for the council.

Her paintings explore the coastal landscape in semi-abstract style, emphasising the light and atmosphere of the environment. Much of her work focuses on the River Deben, including the boatyards near her river-side studio.

The council received ideas from 22 artists of which five finalists were chosen to come in and meet the judging panel of staff, councillors and external arts experts who made the ultimate decision. Well done and thank you to all those that submitted towards this competition.

Launched a new domestic abuse website launched in Suffolk Coastal

A new website was launched in Suffolk Coastal to support those affected by domestic abuse.

The Coastal Action Against Abuse (CAAA) website promotes the group incorporating professionals who work in partnership to raise public and professional awareness and understanding of the impact of domestic abuse on victims, their families and the wider community within Suffolk Coastal District.

The website signposts the public to local services and support in the area, links to national and local campaigns and increase awareness of types of abuse:
<http://www.c-aaa.uk/>

Felixstowe started work to become a dementia friendly town

Felixstowe started work to become the first dementia friendly town in Suffolk Coastal to help make lives easier and support more accessible to people affected by dementia.

It's estimated that around 12,800 people in Suffolk are currently living with dementia, with the number rising in the future. Felixstowe hope the introduction of support groups and information sessions to businesses and individuals will help improve the community's understanding of dementia.

If you would like to get involved with the Felixstowe Dementia Action Alliance, email: fxttaa@gmail.com or phone 07717 150993.

For further information visit: www.dementiafriends.org.uk

We invested over £1m in Suffolk

ECB'S - Suffolk Coastal is celebrating the success of its Enabling Communities Budget this month as funding pumped into communities reaches over £1 million, since the scheme launched in December 2013.

So far, our councillors have supported over 750 projects and community initiatives which equals to £1,038,048. Support has also been given to 23 projects through Suffolk Coastal's Exemplar Grants programme, amounting to £187,940. (Note, TJ researches and approves all of these grants/decision notices)

The budget has supported everything from new play areas, improvements to community buildings, charities which help the youngest and oldest members of our communities, sports clubs and activities which cater to all ages, community tree planting and lifesaving defibrillators – with the list continuing to grow as Enabling Communities funding reaches communities.

This year each of our councillors have £6,500 to allocate to new projects, enhancing existing projects or community groups in their ward.

To find out how your local councillor is spending their budget, or for more information about the Exemplar grants visit their [contact details pages](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/yourcouncil/councillors/suffolk-coastal-district-councillors) to get in touch:
<http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/yourcouncil/councillors/suffolk-coastal-district-councillors>

Crucial Crew Plus trialled at Leiston school

The Alde Valley Academy in Leiston is the first school in Suffolk to trial a new training initiative aimed at keeping young people safe.

Crucial Crew Plus is a new safety initiative aimed at high school pupils, focusing on how to stay safe in all aspects of life and includes self-harm, cybercrime, sex education, substance misuse, grooming and healthy relationships, apprenticeships, realities of crime, self-esteem confidence and anxiety.

The training builds on the success of the one day training primary schools are invited to attend each year, Crucial Crew, and is provided to all year groups.

The training is made up of short presentations and interactive sessions which are supported by a number of local organisations including Suffolk Police, Suffolk Coastal District Council's Active Communities team, Suffolk Wellbeing Service, Access Community Trust, Terence Higgins Trust, Turning Point, Suffolk Coastal Communities team, Suffolk Road Safety, and the Youth Offending Service.

The training teaches children how to tackle the personal dangers they face and helps to prevent them from becoming involved in crime. It delivers hard hitting messages to young people on issues affecting them most, such as sexting, drug and alcohol misuse, grooming and gang violence.

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.

Suffolk Coastal Business and Community Awards Winners

The 2018 Suffolk Coastal Business & Community Awards took place on Thursday 15th 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.

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.

Reminder - Safety advice on the beach

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.

Love East Suffolk this spring

To coincide with the start of spring, Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils have once again launched their community litter pick scheme which rewards residents for cleaning up their communities.

The annual 'Love East Suffolk' scheme encourages east Suffolk residents to organise group litter picks in their local area; all groups participating before 31 May 2018 will receive £20 for their nominated community fund or charity, and will be entered into a £200 grand prize draw, with prizes provided by Suffolk Coastal and Waveney Norse.

The launch of the scheme runs alongside the Great British Spring Clean (2 to 25 March) which aims to bring together people from across the country to clean up litter from their towns, villages, countryside and coastline.

In a joint statement, Cllr Carol Poulter, Cabinet Member for the Green Environment for Suffolk Coastal and Cllr Graham Catchpole, Waveney's Cabinet Member for Operational Partnerships said: "Organising a litter pick in your town or village is a simple but effective way to dramatically improve your local area; it also makes a real difference to wildlife and the environment. We are hugely grateful to anyone who voluntarily picks up litter, whether this is through an organised litter pick or a quick beach clean – this, combined with the work of street cleansing teams from Suffolk Coastal and Waveney Norse, really helps east Suffolk remain such a beautiful place in which to live, work and visit."

Both Suffolk Coastal Norse and Waveney Norse can provide groups with litter-picking equipment including sacks and disposable gloves, as well as removing any collected litter. Litter pick sticks, bag hoops and tabards can also be hired, subject to availability.

To be eligible for the scheme, all registered groups must submit a photo of their event and permit use of the photo for publicity purposes. All cash awards would be payable to a recognised charity or community group chosen by that team of volunteers.

To register your litter pick, please visit www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/love-east-suffolk

Update - . PHILIS wins at national awards

Over 1,000 of the most senior figures in British local government gathered at Grosvenor House, London on 21 March to celebrate the sector's greatest innovators as they attended the annual LGC Awards ceremony.

Winning the Innovation category was the Port Health Interactive Live Information System (PHILIS) developed by Suffolk Coastal Port Health Authority for handling imports at the Port of Felixstowe, the largest container port in the UK.

The winners of the awards were selected by panels featuring some of the country's most respected council chief executives and other senior council officers who interviewed representatives of the shortlisted councils.

Take part in Suffolk's biggest walking festival to date

With over 120 walks on offer, this year's Suffolk Walking Festival is shaping up to be the biggest yet.

Whether you are young or old, a novice or an expert, there is something for everyone. You could kick start your day on a Dawn Chorus walk or end it on a Twilight Safari, have a go at Nordic Walking or spend a day geocaching and seek out the treasures dotted around the landscape.

The three week festival launches with two walks at St Peter's Brewery in Bungay, on Saturday 12 May, each walk including a brewery tour.

Once again, the festival will include a challenge walk and this year's walk covers over 60 miles in just four days. The walk explores The Sandlings, a landscape of sandy soils, heathlands and forests stretching between Southwold and Ipswich.

This year also sees the launch of the Festival Fringe, a series of events that get you close to nature in the very heart of Suffolk's countryside. Fringe highlights include 'Twilight Safari', where you can experience nightlife waking up in an ancient woodland; 'Suffolk Sketchbook' where you can learn to sketch in the iconic setting of Snape Maltings; and 'Iconic Images', a series of photography workshops with one of Suffolk's leading professional photographers.

East Suffolk walks include:

- Suffolk Sketchbook - 15 May - Snape Maltings
- Nature Reserves of Woodbridge - 16 May
- Magical Minsmere - 16 May
- Historic Wickham Market - 16 May
- Wilderness As Far As The Eye Can See - 16 May - Carlton Marshes
- Pepper's Wash & the Roman Road - 18 May - Framlingham
- Benacre Dawn Chorus walk - 18 May
- Nordic Walking - 19 May - Carlton Marshes
- Historic Wickham Market - 19 May
- Nordic Walking - 20 May - Woodbridge
- Wellbeing walk - 20 May - RSPB Minsmere
- Beachcombing for Beginners - 20 May - Bawdsey
- East Suffolk Lines Station to Station - 21 May - Beccles
- Sea, Heath & Fen - 23 May - Sizewell
- Westleton Nightjar Walk - 25 May (Natural England)
- Nordic Walking - 26 May - Woodbridge
- Mindfulness and Nature - 26 May - National Trust Dunwich Heath
- Scenic Heights & Saintly Sites - 27 May - Bungay
- Beccles to Beccles - 27 May
- Signs of Spring - 27 May - National Trust Sutton Hoo
- Geocaching - 29 May - Carlton Marshes
- Walk in the Park - 29 May - Nicholas Everitt Park (Lowestoft Rising)
- Walk in the Park - 30 May - Brampton
- Walk in the Park - 31 May - Sparrows Nest Park (Lowestoft Rising)
- Westleton Nightjar Walk - 1 June (Natural England)
- Nordic Walking - 2 June - Lowestoft
- Sizewell Belts Wildflower Walk - 2 June
- Beachcombing for Beginners - 3 June - Bawdsey

Cllr Jane Storey, cabinet member for Highways, Transport and Rural Issues, said:

“It is great to see such a wide variety of walks and activities in this year’s walking festival and I would encourage as many people as possible to take part. I am hoping to go along to several of the walks with my dog – but there is something for everyone to enjoy.

“The walking festival is a great way to get active, connect with people and most importantly have fun! I hope that this year’s events encourage people to get out, get walking and enjoy the wonderful surroundings we have here in Suffolk.”

BBC Radio Suffolk’s Lesley Dolphin, patron of the walking festival said “It is so exciting that the walking festival continues to grow and grow- this year it’s even got a fringe festival and I’m really proud to be a patron. I’ve loved getting out for a walk ever since I was little when my mum and dad took me to see the red squirrels in Thetford Forest.

“Suffolk is such an amazing place with a huge range of landscapes to explore and what makes this festival so special is that, as well as doing a spot of walking, I learn something about where I live.

“There are over a hundred walks right across the county so there is bound to be something for you, whether it is seeing out wildlife, learning about the silk industry or exploring our villages and towns.”

The Walking Festival is organised by Suffolk County Council and is supported by Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils.

Tickets for the events and walks are now on sale. To buy tickets or find out more information visit [Suffolk Walking Festival](#).

The festival is part of Suffolk County Council’s Discover Suffolk project which aims to improve and promote access to the Suffolk countryside – over 100 walking, cycling and horse riding leaflets are available to download for free from discoversuffolk.org.uk

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.

Response to Second Stage Consultation on the future management of off-street Car Parks in preparation for Civil Parking Enforcement, and next steps: The paper identified the off-street parking orders which need to be prepared ahead Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE) transferring from the police to the Suffolk local authorities . The implementation of CPE is planned for April 2019 but there is some uncertainty from Central Government about the exact timing due to pressure on their legal resources due to Brexit. The off-street orders need to be amended in April 2018 for any changes that are desirable between now and April 2019 as there will be a freeze on any changes from April 2018 to April 2019 while the CPE legal work is being carried out. For more information

<http://apps.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/committeeminutes/showagenda.asp?id=22632>

Thank you to the 2 that responded from Aldeburgh.

RECENT NEWS/UPDATES

Parliamentary Order for new council approved

Officials from Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Council were at Parliament on Wednesday May 9, to see the latest stage in the creation of a brand new 'super district' council for east Suffolk approved.

The Parliamentary Order for the formal creation of the new Council was presented by Rishi Sunak MP, Minister for Housing Communities and Local Government in Committee at the House of Commons (pictured with East Suffolk

officials) and by Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth in the House of Lords. Both Houses approved bringing the legal creation of the new authority in to view.

An “assenting motion” will now be heard in both the Lords and Commons. Finally, the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government will then sign the Order, formally confirming the creation of the new Council, in the next few weeks.

Cllr Ray Herring, Leader of Suffolk Coastal said: “I am absolutely delighted that both the House of Lords and House of Commons have approved the Order to create a new council for east Suffolk. Each step brings an East Suffolk Council closer and we are now very near to the finish line.”

Cllr Mark Bee, Leader of Waveney said: “Parliamentary approval of our plans is a clear indication that a new East Suffolk Council would be the best option for our local communities. This approval is fantastic news and I am very pleased indeed”.

Opening Suffolk stage of Women’s Tour announced

With not long to go until the world’s top cyclists get the OVO Energy Women’s Tour underway in Suffolk, the locations for the two intermediate Eisberg Sprints for the opening stage on Wednesday 13 June have been announced.

Sponsored the second year running by Eisberg, riders will contest two hot spot sprints on the High Street in Needham Market and outside Thomas Mills High School in Framlingham during the 129km opening stage.

Belgian rider Jolien D’hoore won the final stage of the 2017 race wearing the Eisberg Sprints jersey, and is eagerly anticipating being back at the race where she has won twice. She said: “I’m really looking forward to riding the OVO Energy Women’s Tour, because every time we come to the race there are amazing crowds and I love to be cheered on.”

Among the teams racing will be the Storey Racing team of Dame Sarah Storey, who looking ahead to the race commented, “With just 40 days to go it is great to see Suffolk setting the OVO Energy Women’s Tour off again. I’m excited to see our team lining up for the event and know the route will be lined with incredible local support.”

Riders will contest the first sprint in Needham Market at around midday, after 48 kilometres of racing, before the second as the race returns to Framlingham after 79 kilometres of racing at around 12:49pm.

The first three riders across the line at each Eisberg Sprint will earn points on a three-two-one basis towards the Eisberg Sprints jersey, with Suffolk’s two sprints deciding who will wear the red jersey after the opening day of racing.

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: "With just 40 days to go, there is a definite sense of excitement about the OVO Energy Women's Tour coming to east Suffolk and we are pleased to see local communities, businesses and schools showing their support for this prestigious event."

Preparations for the Suffolk stage of the OVO Energy Women's Tour are gearing up, with the leg finishing in Southwold, home to race sponsors Adnams. The town will also host the official sportive, or mass participation ride, of the Women's Tour on Sunday 1 July, giving members of the public the chance to sample some of the route themselves.

Sarah Fisk, Corporate Relations Manager for Adnams said; "We're excited to see the Women's Tour and Tour Ride come to Southwold this year, offering something for riders of all abilities and spectators alike. We hope these events will showcase Suffolk and what the region has to offer, including the numerous cycling friendly pubs and hotels."

...Seventeen days on from the opening stage of the race, the OVO Energy Tour Ride supporting Breast Cancer Care sportive will take place on Sunday 1 July. Riders can choose from a 30-mile Challenge route or 80-mile Pro route, each featuring the same roads as used by the professionals in Stage One.

For more information and to enter, raising funds and awareness for Breast Cancer Care, please visit www.tourride.co.uk

In total 17 teams will compete in the 2018 OVO Energy Women's Tour, including four British squads: Wiggle HIGH5, Storey Racing, Trek-Drops and WNT-Rotor. The list of riders set to take part in the race will be announced shortly before the event.

A one-hour highlights programme of every stage will be broadcast daily on ITV4 and available on demand via the ITV Hub. 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.

Get your business ready for the OVO Energy Women's Tour

On Wednesday 13th June, east Suffolk will host the prestigious 'Grand Depart' and Stage One of the OVO Energy Women's Tour giving residents the chance to see some of the world's best road cyclists.

The riders will be heading through many of our villages and towns including Framlingham, where the event will start – and Southwold where the 129km stage will finish in front of the award-winning beach.

This popular event attracts many visitors to east Suffolk and offers a great opportunity for local businesses. From pop-up food and drink outlets, to window

displays, special offers and cycle-related activities, there are plenty of ways for businesses to show their support.

[Download our free business toolkit for more details](#) about how your business can get involved with the OVO Energy Women's Tour via our website

Air Quality Action Plan approved for Stratford St Andrew

The plan to reduce air pollution on the A12 at Stratford St Andrew has been given government backing.

Suffolk Coastal District Council has received approval from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, following public consultation, for the final Stratford St. Andrew Air Quality Action Plan. The Action Plan has been put in place to help reduce nitrogen dioxide levels within the Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) declared on the A12 at Long Row in Main Road, Stratford St Andrew.

Studies undertaken by Suffolk Coastal suggested that southbound traffic accelerating just prior to the end of the 30 mph speed limit in Stratford St. Andrew was a large part of the problem. The main measure in our Action Plan was therefore to move the 30 mph speed limit sign further south of the village in an aim to reduce the overall speed in the area and any accelerating at Long Row itself. We are now monitoring the impact of the measure and are working closely with the County Council to determine if we need to take forward any other measures in the plan.

Adastral Park legal agreement finalised - planning permission issued

Suffolk Coastal District Council, Suffolk County Council and Carlyle Land, the owner of the land east of the A12 at Martlesham and east and south of Adastral Park, have today signed the S106 legal agreement, meaning the Outline Planning Permission has been approved paving the way for the £300 million development to go ahead.

The land is identified in the adopted Suffolk Coastal District Core Strategy and Development Management Policies Local Plan for a residential led, mixed-use development.

On 15 January 2018, Suffolk Coastal's Planning Committee resolved to grant planning permission subject to conditions and the completion of the S106 deed.

The development, to be known as Brightwell Lakes, will bring £96million of infrastructure investment into the local area, along with approximately £40 million of S106 contributions and £15 million of highways investment, as well as creating almost 1,000 new jobs.

Your old vehicle is YOUR responsibility

Suffolk Coastal has reminded local people that their old vehicles are their own responsibility!

The reminder comes after a woman has gained a criminal record and been made to pay a total of £1084 after Suffolk Coastal took her to court for abandoning her car in a private car park.

The lady from Rendlesham failed to attend Ipswich Magistrates' Court on 17 April and the matter was heard in her absence. She was fined £440 for abandoning her car off Sycamore Road, Rendlesham and made to pay £600 costs and a £44 victim surcharge.

Council officers were notified of the abandoned car in September 2017, the registered keeper of the vehicle, received two formal notices which she ignored and Suffolk Coastal had to remove and impound the car at the taxpayers' expense in January 2018. Furthermore, she failed to pay a £200 fixed penalty notice.

The woman was given plenty of opportunity to do the right thing and arrange for her vehicle to be scrapped but choose to ignore formal notices, meaning that the council had to step in and collect, store and dispose of the vehicle at taxpayers' expense. She also ignored a penalty notice of £200, which would have been reduced to £120 if paid within ten days and put an end to the matter. I hope that this sends a strong message to anyone who might be tempted to dump their old vehicle, because we will investigate and it could end up costing you even more. There is no place for abandoned vehicles in our neighbourhoods and countryside. Not only are they an eyesore, but can pose a danger to children and wildlife as well as attract unwanted attention of vandals. Vehicles dumped in this way are also likely to leak oils, coolants, fuels and other fluids which can cause a serious pollution incident that would be extremely costly to clean up.

If you receive a notice from the council suspecting your vehicle has been dumped - don't ignore it! Your vehicle could be seized and you will have to pay for it to be released, starting from £170 and increasing every day!

It is easy to arrange the disposal of your vehicle with the End of Life Directive. There are a number of sites you can take your vehicle to or arrange to have it picked up (depending on the make). To find your nearest one, visit [Cartakeback](#) or [Rewarding Recycling](#).

'Shear' selflessness as Council officer undergoes charity head shave

A Council officer has experienced a 'close shave' to raise money for charity. On Monday 30 April, Sara Barratt, Customer Experience Officer for Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils, had her head shaved to raise money for the [Flying Seagull Project](#).

The project has worked in 15 countries across the world to bring laughter to those in need, including bringing games, shows and play to children in refugee camps across Europe.

Sara, who organised the charity event to take place in her lunch break at the Councils' Riverside building in Lowestoft, has already raised over £600.

She also donated her hair, 47cm in total, to the [Little Princess Trust](#). The Trust provides real hair wigs to children and young adults who have lost their own hair due to cancer treatment and other illnesses.

Donations can be made at <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/sarabarratt>

Our stroll and litter pick lunch

It is recommended that adults do at least 150 minutes of moderate physical activities a week, and at Suffolk Coastal we get some of ours by doing our bit for the community with a monthly stroll and pick lunch.

Litter is a wasted resource and a hazard to wildlife, not to mention an eyesore. It is also expensive to remove, as is dealing with the wider consequences of vermin, ill health and disease that can arise.

Our message is simple! Always dispose of your rubbish responsibly, and by using facilities provided. If there are no litterbins in the area, take your litter home with you.

If you want to do your bit and organise a litter pick in your own neighbourhood, or favourite beauty spot, at any time of year, on your own, with your family, or with other members of the community, then our Spring Clean litter pick scheme can help.

Suffolk Coastal Norse will provide free disposable rubber gloves, and sacks in which to collect litter, and will arrange to collect and dispose of the rubbish collected.

If your group is organising a litter pick and would like this assistance, please call us on 01394 444000 or complete the online form on our [website](#).

Get in shape for Deben

We are just weeks away from opening Deben Leisure Centre and you can sign up for your membership now. The centre closed in September 2017 to undergo a £3.5M refurbishment as part of Suffolk Coastal's five year programme to improve leisure facilities and encourage more people to become active. We are not able to confirm the exact opening date yet, but we are on track for mid-June.

Deben Pool was first opened in 1973, so to celebrate the reopening, our operators, Places for People Leisure, are kicking off with one month's membership for just £19.73, plus no joining fee, when you sign up before the end of May.

For more information about memberships and prices, go to [Deben Leisure Centre](#) or pop down to see them on site. A sales cabinet is located near the entrance of the community hall and is open weekdays 10am to 7pm and weekends 9am to 4pm. On the weekend of 5 and 6 May 2018, it will be open from 9am to 3pm.

Cllr TJ Haworth-Culf, Cabinet Member for Customers, Communities and Leisure, said:

"We are very excited about the reopening of Deben Leisure Centre, which completes the first project in our leisure redevelopment programme.

“The new and improved centre is set to reopen this summer and will offer the whole community modern facilities and the latest equipment that come at no additional cost to the tax payer.

“We would like to thank members of Deben Leisure Centre for their support during the redevelopment, and we hope that we have created something you will be truly proud of.”

Enjoy a quiet summer in east Suffolk

A nuisance noise ‘hotline’ reopened ahead of the Bank Holiday weekend, to help ensure that east Suffolk residents are able to enjoy a peaceful summer.

Noise complaints are more common over the summer months as people spend more time outside enjoying the warmer weather and light evenings. In preparation for this, Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils have relaunched their seasonal ‘out of hours’ hotline, enabling residents to report nuisance noise.

From 4th May to 30 September, residents can call 01502 527132 outside normal working hours to report a noise concern in either district. On Friday and Saturday evenings, the service is available between 7pm and 1am across both districts. On Sunday evenings on Bank Holiday weekends, the service is also available from 7pm until midnight in Waveney.

In the summer months, when windows are open and more time is spent outside, excess noise can become a problem for some people. We depend on our neighbours to be considerate, but loud parties, barbecues, or simply turning up music in the house so that it can be heard in the garden, can all adversely affect others during the summer months. The same applies to car stereos and entertainment noise from pubs, clubs and businesses. Working closely with Suffolk Police, officers from our Environmental Protection team will be on call throughout the summer to respond to reports of nuisance noise. However we would always ask that residents and businesses are considerate of their neighbours and keep noise to an acceptable level in the first place.

Approximately 1,100 noise complaints are made to Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils each year. Environmental Protection officers from both councils work together to protect east Suffolk residents from nuisances such as excessive noise.

Reported noise incidents can result in legal action being taken against the perpetrators, ranging from the serving of an abatement notice to prosecution. In addition, officers can enter premises, confiscate equipment or make application to magistrates for an Anti-Social Behaviour Order.

Leiston Leisure Centre on the mark for £3.5M refurbishment

Suffolk Coastal is bringing state-of-the-art leisure facilities to Leiston, after plans for a £3.5M refurbishment was given the go ahead.

Work on Leiston Leisure Centre is due to start in September 2018. The centre will need to be closed for 4 months to undergo structural work, with the pool due to reopen in January 2019 and the whole centre is expected to be fully open in summer 2019.

Leiston is the second leisure facility to undergo refurbishment in Suffolk Coastal's leisure redevelopment programme, and will be followed by Felixstowe. Deben Leisure Centre, the first facility to be redeveloped, is due to reopen in mid-June.

Cllr T-J Haworth-Culf said " With the reopening of Deben Leisure Centre only a matter of weeks away, it is great news that Leiston has got approval for much-needed work. We have worked closely with the communities to make sure we create a facility they can be proud of, and I would like to thank everyone for their feedback and support so far. We apologise for any inconvenience caused during the closure of Leiston Leisure Centre, and assure members that other options will be made available to them nearer the time. Extensive consultation has been carried out throughout the redevelopment programme with the local communities, including sport groups and users, the Town Council, Alde Valley Academy and the general public. The feedback received has been positive, with some constructive comments on the plans and the design. Where possible these have been included in the revised plans and will continue to shape the programme on an ongoing basis"

The new enhanced facility will include an extension and the first floor will feature a large gym with modern equipment, including zones for cardiovascular, strength and resistance.

There will be a new high quality village style changing area by the pool. This will be family friendly with cubicles for parent and child, separate changing areas for groups and individual changing cubicles and showers.

The reception area will have a coffee shop and a soft play area for children, which will provide a great view of the pool. A new thermal suite, featuring a sauna and steam room, a feature shower and a relaxation area, will be accessible from the pool area. There will be more fitness classes available with two new dance studios and a group cycling studio, which will also serve as multi-bookable rooms.

The two squash courts had been removed from the original plan, but following feedback from the squash club and other users, these have been retained in the new plan.

Our operators, Places Leisure, will be contacting members of Leiston Leisure Centre, with options available to them during the closure.

If you want more information about the leisure redevelopment programme, you can email our Leisure Team on leisure@eastssuffolk.gov.uk

Or for more information about the leisure centres and progress, go to our [Leisure](#) page.

Helping businesses prepare for GDPR

To help prepare businesses for the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) which comes into force on 25 May, Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils and the East Suffolk Partnership have joined with The DPO Centre to provide an online toolkit with advice and tips on how to get your organisation ready for GDPR.

The toolkit provides advice and support on what business owners need to consider, as well as a checklist of actions on what to do next, all aimed at ensuring you are able to implement the necessary changes.

The toolkit covers internal data protection, general privacy policies for websites, employees, customers and suppliers, help with data processing contracts, an employee privacy policy, general consent notices and data sharing agreements.

Rob Masson, CEO of the DPO Centre said: "The GDPR is the biggest change in data protection legislation for over 20 years, so it is vital that organisations large and small understand their new obligations. This free policy toolkit has provided East Suffolk organisations with the support they need to improve their knowledge, along with the documentation required to demonstrate their compliance."

You can find more information, and the toolkit, at: <https://www.dpocentre.com/gdpr-policy-toolkit/>

useful reminders/contact details etc

Tragically we updated you within our reports last June with a Statement following London Bridge terror attack.

With the tragic events that took place in London and Manchester last year, Suffolk Constabulary's Chief Constable moved to reassure local residents and visitors that although the county remains safe, the approach to policing will be continuously reviewed to help mitigate any potential further threats.

The latest guidance on recognising the terrorist threat and remaining vigilant can be accessed via the National Counter Terrorism Security Office website.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/national-counter-terrorism-security-office>

To report any suspicious activity or behaviour call **0800 789 321** or in an emergency dial **999**.

Help us keep our communities safe by reporting any suspicious activity and please pass any useful information to Suffolk Police about any incident.

<https://www.suffolk.police.uk/contact-us/report-something/report-crime>

DO NOT USE THE LINKS IN AN EMERGENCY OR IN A SITUATION THAT REQUIRES AN IMMEDIATE POLICE RESPONSE WHEN YOU SHOULD RING 999.

To report information anonymously on any crime, contact Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Crime reduction advice can be accessed via the Suffolk Constabulary website.

<https://www.suffolk.police.uk/advice/crime-prevention-z>

Recycling Right?

All recyclable waste collected from Suffolk households is taken to the Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) in Great Blakenham, where it is sorted and baled before being sent on for recycling. This facility is designed to only accept and process certain materials. If the wrong items are delivered they have to be removed, sometimes by hand.

To ensure the correct items are put into their recycling bins, residents are being asked to remember the following points to combat contamination:

- Food waste, glass, electrical items, and batteries are just some of the common contaminants found. These items can't go in your recycling bin at home but they can be recycled elsewhere. Information on where they can be recycled are in the leaflet and online.
- Textiles and clothes can no longer go in the recycling bin, either bagged or loose. Instead people are asked to donate their clothing to charity shops, or to take it to their nearest recycling banks.
- Some people are even putting used nappies in their recycling bins. These must always go in the rubbish bin.
- Anything smaller than 4cm, such as loose bottle tops or shredded paper, won't get recycled they fall through the sorting process. However, bottle tops can be recycled by simply washing and squashing plastic bottles and putting the tops back on.
- Aluminium foil needs to be rolled into a tennis ball size before being placed in the recycling bin.

While it is great we are recycling more than half of our household waste here in Suffolk, this campaign will hopefully help people better understand what can be put in their recycling bins and what can't. Contaminating your recycling bin isn't a small problem and this year it's costing Suffolk taxpayers over £500,000 just to remove the wrong stuff. This money could be better spent supporting services elsewhere. It's therefore vital that we all do our bit and help get our recycling right.

For more information about what can be recycled in your blue bin, please visit www.suffolkrecycle.today

Food Hygiene - Remember to ask 'where's the sticker?'

We are pleased that many food businesses across east Suffolk have been awarded the highest possible rating for food hygiene, however, we are reminding you to check the food hygiene rating sticker when choosing where to eat out.

The Food Hygiene Rating Scheme (FHRS) helps people make an informed choice about where to eat by highlighting restaurants, pubs and cafes with excellent food hygiene. Food businesses can display their black and green FHRS sticker advertising their current food safety rating. This gives an immediate insight into the kitchen and shows how seriously the business takes food hygiene.

All food businesses are checked by the Council's Food and Safety Team to ensure they are compliant with food hygiene law and so if a business is not displaying a FHRS sticker, it might be they have something to hide! Food businesses with poor

food hygiene standards will have a rating of 0 (urgent improvement necessary), 1 (major improvement necessary) or 2 (improvement necessary).

People are encouraged to take food hygiene seriously when choosing where to eat and so if the FHSR sticker is not visible, always ask 'where's the sticker?' You can also check the rating of food businesses online at ratings.food.gov.uk.

All food businesses are capable of achieving the top FHSR rating of 5 (very good) and having a top rating can attract more customers. Food establishment owners should make sure their FHSR sticker is proudly on display on the door, the menu and in any advertising.

Power cuts - Don't be left in the dark

There's a new number to call if you have a power cut.

When the power goes out, it can leave people feeling unsure about what to do.

Research by Energy Networks Association found that 72% of people don't know who to contact during a power cut, with many wrongly thinking they should call the electricity supplier they pay their bill to.

105 aims to solve this problem, providing you with an easy-to-remember number that will put you through to your local electricity network operator - the company that manages the cables, wires and substations that bring electricity into local homes and businesses. 105 is a free service for people in England, Scotland and Wales, and you can call the number from most landlines and mobile phones. It doesn't matter who you choose to buy your electricity from - anyone can call 105.

You can also call 105 if you spot damage to electricity power lines and substations that could put you, or someone else, in danger. If there's a serious immediate risk, call the emergency services too. To find out more, visit powercut105.com.

Reminder to take care by the Coast & Flood warnings

Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils are advising people to take extra care by the coast and to take extra care if they are out on the seafront, as storms can make parts of the coastline unstable.

To keep up to date with any forecasts and flood warnings

<https://www.gov.uk/browse/environment-countryside/flooding-extreme-weather>

Flood warning information, as well as guidance about preparing for floods, can be obtained from the Environment Agency website. When exceptionally heavy rain is forecast, the Met Office will publish local weather warnings.

Action Fraud

If you think you have been targeted by a scam, or know someone who has, then call Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 or report it online. Action Fraud is the UK's national reporting centre for fraud and internet crime.

Be cautious

Please be especially cautious of any individual who approaches you and offers to sell you something at an incredibly reduced price.

Trust your instincts – If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is!

Anyone who is offered goods for sale out the back of a van, by a person who approaches them in the street, or uninvited at the doorstep, should be highly suspicious. Goods sold in this way may be stolen, counterfeit, unsafe or simply overpriced.

Our advice is simply never to deal with traders in this way.
Help us keep our communities safe by reporting any suspicious activity.

Please use the following link to pass useful information to Suffolk Police about any incident.

<https://www.suffolk.police.uk/contact-us/report-something/report-crime>

DO NOT USE THIS IN AN EMERGENCY OR IN A SITUATION THAT REQUIRES AN IMMEDIATE POLICE RESPONSE WHEN YOU SHOULD RING 999.

To report information anonymously on any crime, contact Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Crime reduction advice can be accessed via the Suffolk Constabulary website <http://www.suffolk.police.uk/advice/crime-prevention-z>

Register to vote <https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote>

Use this service to apply to register to vote or to:
update your name, address or other details on the electoral register
change your voting preferences, for example to vote in person or by post
change whether you're on the open register

It usually takes about 5 minutes.

This service is also available in Welsh (Cymraeg).

You may need the following, if you have them:

- your National Insurance number
- your passport if you're a British citizen living abroad

You need to be on the electoral register to vote in elections and referendums.

You can find more information, and the toolkit,
at: <https://www.dpocentre.com/gdpr-policy-toolkit/>

Best wishes,

Cllr T-J Haworth-Culf & Cllr Maureen Jones.