

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Locally

Our new Police Community Engagement Officer Cheryl Claydon is keen to get out and meet residents and will be setting up outdoor street meets in our area – most probably at weekends – from late March.

Highways has had a slighter lower allocation from Department of Transport for the coming year than for this year. We are though doubling the budget for drainage and are planning to use the extra £1m of emergency post winter funding to fix potholes.

I would like to go through outstanding highways issues with you tonight so we can get the full list of outstanding works for me to follow up with highways.

CENSUS 2021

Census is here ! Census day is the 21st March You can complete the Census online now <https://census.gov.uk/>

We now have vaccination centres in Haverhill, Newmarket and Bury St Edmunds and rapid testing centres in Haverhill, at the Arts Centre, Newmarket, St Etheldreda's parish centre and Bury St Edmunds, West Suffolk College. These have been set up to be used by people unable to work from home. They are able to be booked ahead and call in and undertake a lateral flow test and get a result in about 30 minutes. The aim is that nobody should be more than 5 miles from a testing centre. Given that one in three people show no symptoms, it is important where people are not working from home that they should have the peace of mind of checking whether they are Covid-free. Testing is vital in breaking the chain of infection and keeping Suffolk safe

Suffolk County Council and its partner FCC Environment, who manage and run all 11 of Suffolk's recycling centres, are proposing to relocate the Chalkstone Way Recycling Centre to a new location, currently occupied by FCC's Waste Transfer Station at Homefield Road in Haverhill. The proposal is to create a new, modern, split-level Recycling Centre designed to make access for residents easier as well as to maximize recycling. The new recycling centre would be built within part of the existing transfer station site. The replacement recycling centre is being proposed to overcome increasing demand at the existing site at Chalkstone Way. With the forecasted housing growth in the area, future demand is expected to exceed the current site's capacity.

The proposals for the brand new, purpose-designed recycling centre include a raised mezzanine platform to provide residents with an elevated position from which to safely dispose of waste-removing the need for steps. The easy to use layout will allow visitors to access the clearly marked recycling bays, introducing greater separation between public vehicles and large operational vehicles. The proposed centre is expected to reduce queuing on the highway and remove the need for the site to be closed to the public while the large recycling containers are emptied and serviced.

Details about the proposals can be found on the Suffolk Recycling website:

www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk

We are also working to upgrade the booking system introduced for recycling centres during the first lockdown to allow same day booking and number plate recognition of vehicles to free up members of the staff team

Suffolk County Council has set its budget for the coming year and is increasing its spending to £597.9million, some £41million (7.4%) more than 2020/21. As part of

this, the council will be spending £15.3million to address its ongoing Covid-19 costs. There are no proposed reductions in council services or personnel in 2021/22. The council's income from council tax is going to be £7.9million less than expected in 2021/22 and this shortfall will be met by using council reserves. Reserves can only be spent once and do not represent a viable long term financial solution. This effective use of reserves is made possible because Suffolk County Council has maintained a consistent approach to managing its finances effectively for a number of years, holding a proportionate level of reserves for this exact situation. In 2021/22, general Council Tax will rise by 1.99 per cent, which represents an increase of £26.68 for a Band D property, from £1,224.70 in 2020, to £1,251.38. There is also a two per cent rise in the Social Care Precept. This means a Band D property will see an overall rise of £53.55 this year for Suffolk County Council's element of their Council Tax bill, from £1,343.61 in 2020-21 to £1,397.16 in 2021-22.

A new digital resource has been launched to help parents and carers build exercise into the daily routines of children being home schooled during lockdown. Providing information about, and access to, a host of curriculum-based and other popular resources, the resource brings together, in one place, everything parents could need to bring exercise into the home in a fun and engaging way. Produced as part of the popular Keep Moving Suffolk campaign, it responds to data showing that activity levels of children and young people have fallen significantly during lockdown prompting fears of a long-term impact on their physical and mental health and wellbeing. Keepmovingsuffolk.com

A project called *Discovering Suffolk* has been launched to raise further awareness of the range of great walking routes, areas of interest and variety of landscapes that form Suffolk's beautiful countryside through public rights of way and points of access. The Stour Valley footpath will be included in this scheme.

The key element of the Discovering Suffolk project, funded by the Suffolk 2020 fund, is the development of a smartphone app alongside a range of supporting QR codes fixed to rights of way signposts located along different routes to promote walking, cycling and exploring Suffolk's countryside. Old/rotting waymarkers will be replaced.

To date we have had about 50 expressions of interest from local communities across the county which want to host new electric vehicle charging points. If the village hall is interested - for more information and to apply to join the network, please visit www.greensuffolk.org/plug-in-suffolk £300,000, from the Suffolk 2020 Fund has been invested into creating 100 fast charging points in rural areas of the county

Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service has been recognised nationally for its response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) was commissioned by the Home Secretary to examine how fire and rescue services are responding to the pandemic. In her report, Zoë Billingham, HM Inspector of Fire & Rescue Services, said of Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service: "We were impressed with how the service adapted and responded to the pandemic effectively." SFRS staff have been redeployed to support other departments in Suffolk County Council, in response to the pandemic. These include:

- Providing additional resource to colleagues in the Coroner's Office
- Setting up and administering the first booking system and phoneline for testing key workers

- In April 2020, around 30 firefighters volunteered and trained to work alongside paramedics to drive frontline emergency NHS ambulances, in turn freeing up paramedics to care for patients
- Teams have also helped deliver food, essential items and medicine as part of the Home But Not Alone scheme

A new campaign was launched in Suffolk to help people get their recycling right. Each year more than 10,000 tonnes (about 20%) of recycling from Suffolk homes is rejected due to the wrong items being placed in Suffolk's recycling bins. This is the same as 1 in 5 lorries full of recycling going to waste. The cost of sorting and disposing this spoiled recycling is more than £1million. The campaign, *Together We Can Get Our Recycling Right* includes a leaflet to all households with the do's and don'ts of what can easily be recycled at home, plus tips on how to recycle other items not accepted in home recycling bins. The campaign will be supported on the Suffolk Recycling website and social media channels.

The worst offending items incorrectly found in recycling bins include glass, black sacks, food waste, cartons and nappies. There are three simple steps that householders can take to improve the quality of their recycling. These include:

- Put glass in a bottle bank, not in your wheelie bin
- No bagged items. Keep your recycling empty, clean and dry
- Keep all food out of your recycling bin. Put any food you cannot eat or compost in your rubbish bin.

Suffolk County Council is launching an exciting new project as part of its work in supporting local care home providers and the ongoing care of residents with Dementia by developing virtual reality content, helping people recall and access positive memories that they hold dearly. Such experiences assist the support offered on a day to day basis, providing a variety of positive stimuli to those using the equipment and valuable respite for their carers.

The intention is to produce a range of local, Suffolk-based films and interactive materials that people can enjoy and experience with the support and input of their carers or family members.

Suffolk County Council launched a initiative last month deploying 'gateways' to build a network that covers all of Suffolk and will enable individuals or organisations to measure things like temperature, sound and movement via sensors linked to the Long Range Wide Area Network (LoRaWAN). The network is being built in partnership with Norfolk County Council and funded by the New Anglia LEP. Once finished, the network will be made up of almost 100 'gateways' or data receivers and transmitters fitted to public sector buildings across the county. Businesses and individuals can buy their own sensors, adapt them to measure different things like visitor numbers, weather data and temperature, and tap into the gateways for free.

Two weeks ago at SCC, we confirmed support for the creation of a new Freeport (Freeport East) which would cover both the ports of Felixstowe and Harwich as part of the Government's aim to create a number of Freeports across the country to drive job creation, investment and international trade post Brexit. Freeport status was granted in the Budget last week – it is estimated it will bring 13,500 jobs to the area. A Freeport includes secure customs zones and tax sites where business can be carried out inside a country's land border, but where different tax and customs rules apply. These rules mean Freeports can potentially reduce administrative burdens

and tariff controls, provide relief from duties, import taxes, and ease tax and planning regulations. Today it was announced the bid has been approved!

STEP 1 8 March		29 March		STEP 2 No earlier than 12 April	
EDUCATION		EDUCATION		EDUCATION	
8 MARCH		29 MARCH		At least 5 weeks after Step 1	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools and colleges open for all students Practical Higher Education courses 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As previous step 	
SOCIAL CONTACT		SOCIAL CONTACT		SOCIAL CONTACT	
8 MARCH		29 MARCH			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exercise and recreation outdoors with household or one other person Household only indoors 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rule of 6 or two households outdoors Household only indoors 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rule of 6 or two households outdoors Household only indoors 	
BUSINESS & ACTIVITIES		BUSINESS & ACTIVITIES		BUSINESS & ACTIVITIES	
8 MARCH		29 MARCH			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wraparound care, including sport, for all children 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organised outdoor sport (children and adults) Outdoor sport and leisure facilities All outdoor children's activities Outdoor parent & child group (max 15 people, excluding under 5s) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All retail Personal care Libraries & community centres Most outdoor attractions Indoor leisure inc. gyms (individual use only) Self-contained accommodation All children's activities Outdoor hospitality Indoor parent & child groups (max 15 people, excluding under 5s) 	
TRAVEL		TRAVEL		TRAVEL	
8 MARCH		29 MARCH			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay at home No holidays 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimise travel No holidays 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Domestic overnight stays (household only) No international holidays 	
EVENTS		EVENTS		EVENTS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funerals (30) Weddings and wakes (6) 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funerals (30) Weddings, wakes, receptions (15) Event pilots 	

Yours with kind regards

Mary

Mary Evans

Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education & Skills
 Suffolk County Council,
 Old Village Hall, Lower Street, Stansfield, Suffolk CO10 8LP
 T. 01284 789478; M. 07970 187864; Mary.Evans@Suffolk.gov.uk

March 2021 District Councillor report

for

Depden Parish Council

Council Tax rise unveiled for 20/21. West Suffolk Council's cabinet on Tuesday night outlined its 2021/22 budget plans for a rise of 3p per week for a Band D property in the former St Edmundsbury area and 22p a week in the former Forest Heath area.

Car Parks. West Suffolk District Council has confirmed it will continue to pause a long-delayed rise in parking charges to help communities and businesses during the pandemic.

Census 2021 Preparations are underway for Census 2021. Starting from 22 February 2021, all households in West Suffolk will receive a postcard telling them about Census 2021 and asking them to look out for a 'pack' that will arrive with them sometime after 3 March 2021. This pack will include their census access code to go online and complete the census questionnaire. There will, of course, be residents who are unable to complete the census online and for whom a variety of support will be available. This support includes the following:

comprehensive guidance and support in many languages and formats

- help in local centres with trained staff and online access
- an ONS contact centre to provide help via telephone, web chat and social media
- field staff contacting households that have not yet responded
- accessible census questionnaires, for example in large print
- the option to request paper questionnaires

The elections on 6 May have been confirmed and while preparations have been in hand since last year to ensure that they can be run safely and transparently, the hard work of putting the plans into action is now beginning and assure you of how seriously we are taking the safety of staff, candidates, and electors.

There are currently 125,000 voters on the electoral register, and since December we have been promoting postal and proxy voting as alternatives to voting in person. This includes writing to 12,000 people over 70 and also to those clinically vulnerable who do not have a postal vote.

Every polling station has been health and safety risk assessed and training and support designed for all polling station staff, with adaptations to avoid contact with and between electors. This includes ventilation, layout, strict distancing and not handling poll cards.

Electors will be told what to expect. As well as the usual facemask, hand sanitising, social distancing, they should be prepared to queue outside and bring a pen or pencil to make their mark, if they wish to.

In addition to the delayed Suffolk County Council and Police and Crime Commissioner elections, we will be running by-elections for two west Suffolk wards (Moreton Hall and Lakenheath) and eight town and parish seats – as well as the Great Barton Neighbourhood Plan referendum.

One end of the first floor of West Suffolk House will be cleared as a secure area for processing postal votes only.

At close of poll, ballot boxes will be accepted in a safe way at two count venues in Bury St Edmunds, Skyliner Way and Bury St Edmunds Leisure Centre. This gives us space to ensure good social distancing on the count floor. The papers will be verified overnight. Counting on the Suffolk County Council divisions will begin on Saturday morning and continue on Sunday with the Police and Crime Commissioner votes. Counting the by-elections and referendum is to be confirmed.

This is an overview with details yet to be confirmed, including on access to the count and the count process. If you have any particular areas of concern, please do contact the elections team at elections@westsuffolk.gov.uk

16 new COVID-19 rapid testing centres to open in Suffolk

- More rural communities served by new locations
- Soon, 28 sites will be open across county
- Tests take 15 minutes and results returned within the hour

A further 16 rapid testing centres for COVID-19 are to open in Suffolk, bringing the total number of centres to 28.

The sites are planned to open over the next two weeks in Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth, Southwold, Aldeburgh, Saxmundham, Debenham, Framlingham, Woodbridge, Eye, Holbrook, Needham Market, Elmswell, Hadleigh, Nayland and Brandon - serving more rural communities across the county.

The 28 centres use 'lateral flow' testing to identify people who may have coronavirus but who do not have symptoms. The tests are for people who do not have symptoms of coronavirus and cannot work from home.

It's because one in three people with coronavirus do not have symptoms so regular testing is vital in breaking the chain of infection and keeping Suffolk safe.

Councillor Matthew Hicks, Suffolk County Council's leader and chair of the Suffolk Local Outbreak Engagement Board, said:

"Testing is a key weapon in the battle against COVID-19, so we are delighted to be able to open a further 16 sites in more rural communities across Suffolk.

"Whilst Suffolk's vaccine rollout programme rapidly picks up pace, we need people who can't work from home and who don't have symptoms to get tested twice a week. It's how we will break the chain of infections and protect vulnerable people.

"It takes just 15 minutes to get a test and you get the results within the hour. 12,780 tests have already been completed. Suffolk needs everyone to play their part."

All 28 centres are listed on Suffolk County Council's website, including their addresses and opening times. The testing sites are operated on behalf of Suffolk County Council (SCC). Tests should be booked online or by phone in advance.

Employers are being urged to encourage their staff to book regular testing.

There are already 12 facilities open, including at the University of Suffolk in Ipswich, the STEM Centre in Western Way at West Suffolk College, Bury St Edmunds, Haverhill Arts Centre, St Etheldreda's parish centre in Newmarket, and Kirkley & Pakefield FC in Lowestoft.

Dog Fouling

Please follow the link below

<https://www.facebook.com/WestSuffolkCouncil/photos/a.279762395392747/3741786179190334/>

Dog fouling Social Media campaign

Post Number	Day/date	Message
1	Tuesday 23 rd of Feb	Walking the dog, remember to take bags
2	Friday 26 th of Feb	Walking at night, keep your dog close
3	Tuesday 2 nd of Mar	Scoop every poop
4	Friday 5 th of Mar	Clear up after your dog
5	Tuesday 9 th of Mar	Don't fill it and fling it
6	Friday 12 th of Mar	Any public litter bin will do
7	Tuesday 16 th of Mar	Any public litter bin will do
8	Friday 19 th of Mar	Dog fouling affects everyone
9	Tuesday 23 rd of Mar	Dog fouling is a nuisance
10	Friday 26 th of Mar	Report offenders to the council

View the attachment '[Community Action Plan - Dog Fouling.pdf](#)' for more detail.

new water pipeline

The following letter from Anglian Water sets out a proposed new pipeline. The attachment [B2B Newsletter.pdf](#) shows the proposed route and the consultation process. Whilst not directly affecting Depden there may be peripheral impacts from roadworks in the locality.



Cllr Mike Chester
West Suffolk Council
West Suffolk House
Western Way
Bury St Edmunds
Suffolk
IP33 3YU

Anglian Water Services
Ltd
3rd Floor
Worldwide House
Thorpe Wood
Peterborough
Cambridge
PE3 6SB

Tel 03457 145 145
www.anglianwater.co.uk
Our ref WAT-07255-04

Your ref 57182448

17 February 2021

Dear Cllr Chester,
Bexwell to Bury pipeline

We wanted to let you know about our plans for a new water pipeline between Bexwell and Bury, which will pass through your ward, and our plans to engage with the wider community in the next few weeks.

Our 25-year Water Resources Management Plan sets out how we will manage water across our region. We have consulted widely and have support from customers and regulators for our plans. We will be investing in our network to make the best use of water resources whilst minimising the impact on the wider environment.

Within the plan is a programme to install a series of interconnecting pipelines to move water across the region. The new Bexwell to Bury pipeline is part of this programme.

Why is the pipeline needed?

The new pipeline will connect into our existing water network and make it easier for us to move water to where it is needed. This pipeline will increase the reliability of the local water supply and will enable us to reduce the amount of water we take from the environment and strengthen resilience.

We have worked hard to ensure the preferred pipeline route minimises the impact on residents, businesses, landowners, and on the environment, and we will continue to work with landowners throughout the project.

Inviting you to our virtual event

We are committed to keeping you and the communities within your area, updated as our plans develop. That's why we have developed an online virtual event which contains all the information you would expect to see at a physical event that we would have held in a village hall or a community centre.

Please come to our virtual event which is being held from

9.00am on Monday 22 February until 11.00pm on Monday 8 March 2021. To access the event, please visit our website from 22 February: <https://www.anglianwater.co.uk/spa>.

A newsletter containing more information about the pipeline, the online event and how to take part, is attached to this mailing. If you have any questions, or would like further information, please contact the team at StrategicPipelines@anglianwater.co.uk quoting reference **57182448** or **B2B** in the subject line.

Yours sincerely

Deryl Roberts

Head of Consenting
Anglian Water - Strategic Pipeline Alliance

Mike Chester

District Councillor Chedburgh and Chevington Ward

VAS Summary Depden January 2021

VAS records number of vehicles and speeds in 5 minutes intervals and 5 mph ranges - not individual registrations etc. VAS shared with Hargrave and Ousden in rotation (4 weeks each village).

1 Claremont, Depden Green (IP29 4BY) coming from A143 Jan 12- Jan23

Average speed:31.4 mph

Vehicles: 2,201

Average number of vehicles: 156/day

Fastest speed: 90mph (18/01/21 at 10:00)

61% of vehicles speeding (1,336)

Avg speeder: 36.5 mph

85 percentile speed: 39.5 mph

Over 35 mph: 713 (32%)

Over 45 mph: 59 (3%)

Over 60 mph: 2

2 Claremont, Depden Green from Water Tower dirn (IP29 4BY), Jan 23-Feb 6

Average speed: 30.3 mph

Vehicles: 2,329

Average number of vehicles: 196/day

Fastest speed: 60mph (27/1/21 6:00pm)

60% of vehicles speeding (1,656)

Avg speeder goes 36.7 mph

85 percentile speed: 39.5 mph

Over 35 mph: 896 (33%)

Over 45 mph: 124 (5%)

Over 60 mph: 0