



District Councillors Report to Swilland & Witlesham Parish Council Meeting

For July 2023

Carlford and Fynn Valley Ward.

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

From District Councillor

Cllr Colin Hedgley

(Colin.Hedgley@eastsuffolk.gov.uk)

New Council

The New Council has now been installed and to date two Full council Meetings have taken place. The minutes are on the Council website for the first meeting.

Committees

I am on the Licensing Committee, Licensing sub-committee, The Planning Committee South and the Strategic planning Committee.

ASB Awareness

For your information, national ASB Awareness Week runs from 3 – 9th July this year. There will be increased mentions on the Councils social media pages about the topic, particularly relating to ‘Know your rights’ which is this years national theme. In our Community Partnership area the High School will be contacted and reminded of ASB Week and advice given to staff around the topic. There will be ASB Activity Books for children in the library which were very well received last year (we had the greatest uptake across the district for this). Myself and PC Gilkes, the local Problem Solving Officer, are contacting businesses in Martlesham, Rushmere and Kesgrave to encourage reporting of ASB issues consistently, and the same will be done in a key hotspot area directly to residents, again in Martlesham. We’re data led in terms of our actions for the week, hence less visibility in certain places than others. In case you get any questions about ASB from residents, we encourage each incident to be reported so that a pattern of behaviour is identified. This particularly helps the Police allocate resource to particular issues. For East Suffolk Council, people can either call customer services or report an issue via our website. For the Police, they encourage online reporting as the first option as its dealt with in the same way as a call but much



quicker. Alternatively, a call to 101 is an option. In the event of an emergency, it's always 999.

The summer is the time when we get the most ASB reports, so if you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask.

Community Partnerships

We're anticipating a Community Partnership meeting, our first since the elections, in late July. We expect the venue to be East Suffolk House as we're expecting a strong turnout and our other venue would have been too small. Data for the area will be sent to you in due course which will hopefully bring some perspective to your area. Next week is Anti-Social Behaviour Awareness week nationally (see above) – our local issue is a lack of reporting which means we and the Police can't do anything about it. We'll be pushing this locally, have activity books for children in Kesgrave and Woodbridge libraries and will be delivering letters to all businesses with encouragement to report issues so we can take action against them.

Conversations are being held regarding this winter's 'Ease the Squeeze' funding allocation following the learning from last winter. Funding for warm rooms will continue at a lower rate to reflect the lower running costs, and we'll be particularly looking to support those venues that are already offering something similar.

Operation Camouflage

Operation Camouflage is our local summer activity programme held in conjunction with the British Army at Rock Barracks, Sutton. It offers free child places to those accessing free school meals, and we provide free transport for children from our CP area. Some of the days are now 'sold out' and we are around two thirds sold out overall. We've asked schools to publicise to the relevant families and will be having another push this week.

Felixstowe to host 'Love Felixstowe' festival & Tour of Britain stage five finish

Felixstowe BID, Felixstowe Town Council and East Suffolk Council are delighted to announce their collaboration in hosting 'Love Felixstowe,' a 6-day celebration event showcasing the town's vibrant spirit and local businesses to the community and visitors. The event will culminate with the arrival of stage five of the Tour of Britain, an international cycle race comprising some of the best male cyclists in the world, on Thursday September 7th. Love Felixstowe will feature a weekend programme of events from September 2nd to 4th, encompassing the town and seafront areas.



Helping families access affordable school uniform

Community groups, organisations and town and parish councils are invited to apply for funding to help provide school uniform to East Suffolk families in need.

The East Suffolk Uniform Bank grant scheme provides funding for community groups to open a new uniform bank or expand an existing uniform bank.

Once operational, donations of new or pre-loved good-quality uniform, sportswear and school equipment can be made to the banks, which will then be made available to families who may be struggling to afford uniform.

Applications are welcome from community and voluntary groups, organisations and town and parish councils. Dependent on capacity and need, successful applicants may be encouraged to also offer interview clothing and prom wear to assist families with older children. Grants are available for up to £3,000 and applications close on 28 July.

Full details about how to apply can be found at <https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/uniform-bank-grant-scheme/>

For further details, please contact gemma.fraser@eastsuffolk.gov.uk

East Suffolk Council understands the pressures faced by many people today and is working closely with partners and stakeholders to ensure support is available to help ease the squeeze for households in East Suffolk: www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/squeeze

Armed Forces personnel celebrated through community events

This past week, activities have taken place commemorating the bond between locally based armed forces personnel and the neighbouring Suffolk civil community.

Beginning with a flag-raising ceremony and culminating in a celebratory public gathering, the events have reaffirmed a pledge made by local authorities in October 2012 – with the signing of the Suffolk Armed Forces Community Covenant – to support the local armed forces community and develop mutually beneficial projects.

Since 1990, the Ministry of Defence has supported local communities to organise Armed Forces Day events that give thanks to the armed forces community, including serving military personnel, veterans, service families, reservists and cadets.

Each year, Suffolk council leaders have agreed to coordinate, host and support an annual Armed Forces Day event for the county. This year's events, hosted by East Suffolk Council,



aimed to raise public awareness of the contribution made by His Majesty's Armed Forces, and show public support for the men and women of the armed forces community.

Waste Management.

I know most of you have seen this but I often get asked “What is happening about Norse and our bins?” So here it is again.

East Suffolk Council will be ceasing its operational contract with Norse on the 30th June. To deliver its waste management and street scene services in future the Council has set up an arms-length Local Authority Trading Company (LATCo) called East Suffolk Services Limited (ESSL). The company will be wholly owned by the Council and will begin operations on the 1 July 2023.

The Council has also appointed a new Strategic Waste Team to be responsible for the development of future strategies for waste collection, recycling and street cleaning and the future contribution of council-owned open spaces to the green and health agenda. The team will also be responsible for management of the service contract the Council will have with ESSL.

The Council will continue to work closely with Town and Parish Councils on the delivery of these key services so we would like to introduce ourselves to you. The Team is managed by Robert Stammers, the LATCo Partnership Manager, and two Contracts Managers, Kate McFarland and Laura Hack. You can contact us through our team email address: operations@eastsuffolk.gov.uk

Your town or parish council may have a direct contract or service agreement in place with ESSL going forward for land that you own, and, in this case, you will continue to have a direct contact with staff at ESSL for this aspect.

Our role is to manage day to day service issues, including any queries, complaints and issues from the town and parish councils relating to the services that East Suffolk Council provide through ESSL. This ranges from household waste collection, litter bins, recycling banks and street cleansing, to public conveniences, maintenance of carparks and playgrounds and CCTV.

There are reporting mechanisms for many of these areas online, but if you have ongoing issues or queries, please feel free to contact us directly using the email address above.

We have included links for you below that you and your residents may find useful – reporting through these mechanisms helps us to capture all the relevant data:



Waste and Recycling

Household waste bin collection days	https://my.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/service/Bin_collection_dates_finder
Updates on waste collection delays	https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/assets/Waste/waste-collections-update.pdf
Glass recycling Points	https://suffolkrecycling.org.uk/where-to-recycle/glass-recycling
Bring Site Points	https://www.recyclenow.com/local-recycling

Flytipping, litter and abandoned vehicles

Reporting a fly-tip or littering incident	https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/waste/fly-tipping/how-to-report-fly-tipping/
Reporting an issue with a litter or dog litter bin (not emptied or broken / missing / vandalised)	https://my.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/service/Bins_dog_waste_or_litter
Community litter picks	https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/waste/litter/love-east-suffolk/
Abandoned Vehicle reporting	https://my.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/service/Abandoned_vehicle_or_roadside_issue

Public realm and grounds maintenance

Reporting an issue with a public toilet	http://my.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/service/public_toilets_report_a_problem
Pardon the Weeds – areas of biodiversity	Pardon-the-Weeds-campaign-information.pdf (eastsuffolk.gov.uk)
Grass cutting FAQs	https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/assets/Leisure/Grass-cutting-FAQs.pdf
Reporting an issue with a street name plate	Report a damaged or missing street name plate - My East Suffolk

You may also find the link to our online land mapping system useful, as this shows areas owned by East Suffolk Council: [East Suffolk mapping system](#)

Suffolk County Council also have a mapping system to show which roads and footpaths they have adopted: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/highway-maintenance/road-adoption/highways-and-private-roads>

**Strategic Waste Team**

East Suffolk Council

Email: operations@eastsuffolk.gov.uk

www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk

Our ambition is to deliver the best possible quality of life for everyone who lives in, works in and visits East Suffolk.

We are East Suffolk

New charging agreed to improve local infrastructure

A new range of charges, which developers are required to pay to help improve infrastructure in East Suffolk, has been agreed.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a fee which East Suffolk Council charges developers when new development is built in the district. CIL can then be put towards improvements to local infrastructure, such as play areas, schools, transport schemes and GP surgeries.

At a Full Council meeting on Wednesday 28 June, a new East Suffolk CIL charging schedule was adopted, which will come into force from 1 August 2023. The new schedule replaces two separate schedules for the former Waveney and Suffolk Coastal districts.

The spending of CIL contributions is determined by CIL regulations in line with the Council's adopted CIL Spending Strategy and is approved by Cabinet.

Two other policies have also been adopted - the East Suffolk CIL Instalment Policy which will allow developers to pay their CIL contributions in instalments, and the East Suffolk Discretionary Social Housing Relief Policy which provides relief for some affordable housing developments.

The East Suffolk CIL Charging Schedule was subject to two public consultations in 2021 and was submitted for independent examination in July 2022, with a public hearing held in October 2022. The schedule was recommended for adoption by the examiner in April 2023, subject to three modifications, all of which have been made.

<https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/community-infrastructure-levy/>



Court imposes £5,500 fine for unlawful tree felling

An Aldeburgh homeowner has been fined £5,500 and told to replace a protected tree unlawfully removed from his garden.

Russell Abrahams, 62, was sentenced by magistrates after pleading guilty to breaching a 34-year-old preservation order by felling an oak tree in the garden of his Thorpe Road home last summer.

The prosecution was brought under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 by East Suffolk Council, successor to Suffolk Coastal District Council, which approved the original Tree Preservation Order (TPO) in June 1989.

The Act prevents anyone from cutting down a protected tree without getting permission from the local authority.

On Monday 22 August 2022, acting on a report of unauthorised tree felling, East Suffolk Council's Principal Landscape and Arboricultural Officer visited the address, located within the Aldeburgh Conservation Area, where residents are required to also give six weeks' notice of intent to carry out any tree works.

Although a tree works application had been submitted to East Suffolk Council in December 2020, it only covered work to a number of grey poplars in the front garden area and the removal of a rotting sycamore to the side of the property, but made no reference to a healthy, maturing Turkey oak felled nine days before the officer's visit.

Mr Abrahams appeared before magistrates on 19 June to admit breaching the preservation order. He was fined £5,500 and ordered to pay £1,302 in prosecution costs and a £2,000 statutory court surcharge.

A tree replacement notice will also be issued by East Suffolk Council, requiring the planting of a replacement Turkey oak in a position adjacent to the location of the felled tree.