



County Council Report for Walsham-le-Willows Parish Council

November 2018

By County Councillor Jessica Fleming, Hartismere Division, Suffolk

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Remembrance Sunday – We are proud that Suffolk’s Chief Fire Officer, Mark Hardingham, led over 200 members of the Civilian Services Contingent on Remembrance Sunday at the 2018 Cenotaph Service and Parade in Whitehall, which forms part of the static guard of honour around the Cenotaph, alongside the Army, Royal Air Force and Royal Navy. Mark was selected by the National Fire Chiefs Council to represent the UK’s uniformed Civilian Services.

Highways and Drainage Reporting Reminder - All defects or drainage problems or dangerous winter road conditions should be reported using the reporting tool on the Highways website:

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/>

Community Transport – This is a reminder that the Mid Suffolk area Connecting Communities provider (BSEVC) offers on-demand minibus services, phone 01449 614271 to arrange transport, or to volunteer as a driver. Or email: bookings@bsevc.co.uk The Rickinghall-Botesdale Good Neighbour Scheme also offers local service, phone Gordon Lawrence on 01379 897109.

Suffolk’s 2019/ 2020 Budget Consultation is still open - and can be accessed by visiting www.suffolk.gov.uk/budget2019 Hard copies will be available from libraries. The consultation closes at 5pm on Friday 16 November.



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Memorial Planting - Seven English Oak Trees were planted on 2nd November in Debenham to commemorate the role played by the people of Mid Suffolk in the First World War and to remember all those who gave their lives for our freedoms today. Mid Suffolk lost just over 1,600 people in the First World War. The planting ceremony was hosted by Cllr David Burn, Cabinet Member for Environment, and attended by local school children, representatives of the Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk's 2018 Committee and county, district and parish councillors.

Visitor Information Points – The VIP at the Museum of East Anglian Life in Stowmarket is closed. VIPs are being set up at Stowmarket Library covering the Mid Suffolk area. Long Melford Library and Sudbury Library VIPs will cover the Babergh area. The VIP Network will extend over coming months in preparation for the main summer tourist season in 2019.

Planning – Wattisfield Road –Some people have enquired about the 2 recent permissions and I can report nothing new that is not posted on the District's planning website. It is desirable (but not mandatory) that developers engage with local communities prior to deciding on the reserved matters detail, no contact in this regard has been made to date by the main developer. The newly issued NPPF (July 2018) very much encourages this pro-active approach.

Neighbourhood Planning – please note that Historic England has recently published guidance on neighbourhood planning and the historic environment, refer to:

<https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/planning/plan-making/improve-your-neighbourhood/>

Also for interest, Botesdale and Rickinghall Parish Council are jointly undertaking a Pre-Submission Consultation on the Draft Botesdale and Rickinghall Neighbourhood Plan. The full plan and supporting documents can be viewed [here](#) together with information on how to send us your comments. This Consultation runs for a period of 6 weeks ending on **21 December 2018**.

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