

## County Councillor Report



### Walsham-le-Willows Parish Council, December 2023

Councillor Jessica Fleming, Hartismere Division Tel. 07714-597980 [Jessica.fleming@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Jessica.fleming@suffolk.gov.uk)

**Flood Recovery** – Suffolk Floods Team have issued a format through SALC for collecting local evidence following storms Babet and Kieran, if you have not received it please let me know. This will enable engineers to focus on trouble spots, actions and assess eligibility grants to be administered through District Councils. Please refer to the following website: [Flood Recovery information for Suffolk - Suffolk County Council](#) and continue to report with photographs and relevant dates to: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/highway-maintenance/report-a-highways-issue>

**Budget Setting** – the council is preparing to finalise its budget for 2024/'25 which needs to respond to cost pressures from inflation and increased service demand. Thank you to all who have responded to the budget survey to date.

**Major Projects at Stanton** – Equation Warehousing DC/23/1154/OUT: National Highways has submitted a holding objection valid until 24<sup>th</sup> March to enable completion of a review of effects on the strategic road network.

Jaynic Various Proposals DC/22/2190/HYB: Co-Part have pulled out but Jaynic is continuing to pursue its application for developing the site. St Edmundsbury BC maintains a holding objection and requires an Air Quality Strategy to assess effects on the Gt Barton AQMA. Suffolk Highways currently objects based on NPPF 110a and 112 (referring to sustainable transport and linkage), and cross references a drainage objection from the Lead Local Flood Authority (SCC).

**Highways** – Reminder to please report any defective road signs with a photograph. All highways defects should be reported on the web site: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/highway-maintenance/report-a-highways-issue>

**Suffolk's Environmental Awards Open for Nominations** - Suffolk County Council recognises the valuable environmental work done throughout Suffolk and invites nominations for an awards ceremony to be held on 27 March 2024, at The Hold in Ipswich.

Categories for the 2024 Awards are:

- Waste Reduction and Recycling Award
- Enhancing Biodiversity and Landscape Award
- Greenest Business Award
- Greenest Small Business Award
- Greenest Community Award

- Green Hero Award (People’s Choice award)
- Greenest School Award
- Green Tourism Award

Nominations are now [open online](#) at [www.greensuffolk.org/awards](http://www.greensuffolk.org/awards) and close on 31 January 2024.

**Reminder** - Consultation on Suffolk Libraries – a 13-week two-part consultation is open until Friday 26 January 2024 to seek views on future library services. A competitive Tender Process will follow with a new contract awarded in November 2024. The three mobile library vehicles serve at least 500 stops across rural Suffolk each month and consideration needs to be given to their replacement. Outreach services include Pop-up Libraries and a home library service run by volunteers. Please do respond to this consultation if you value the current services or have ideas on how they might adapt: <https://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/about/news/suffolk-county-councils-library-consultation-process>

**Pylons Project and Grid Reinforcement** – Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex County Councils have jointly commissioned Hiorns Smart Energy Networks to prepare an independent report into the Norwich to Tilbury project. Leaders of the three councils are asking National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) and the electricity system planner, National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO) to consider the findings. The final report is available to read at: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/asset-library/n2t-the-hiorns-report.pdf>

**Large Scale Solar Energy Developments** – SCC Cabinet Member Richard Rout has written to ministers objecting to the large land-take demanded by land based solar. Cllr Rout’s letter can be found at: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/asset-library/suffolk-cc-nationally-significant-infrastructure-projects-very-large-scale-solar-farms-24-10-23-redacted.pdf>

**Homes for Ukraine** – ‘Thank you’ payments for hosts will be extended from March 2024 to March 2025, completing a third year of support. Payment timetables and award will remain as they are currently paid. Further details on payments out can be here: [Ukraine: information for hosts - Suffolk County Council](#)

**Discovery of a 1,400-year-old Temple at Sutton Hoo** - A rare, possible pre-Christian temple from the time of the East Anglian Kings, has been found at the Sutton Hoo Rendlesham site. The discovery was made this summer by Suffolk County Council’s Rendlesham Revealed community archaeology project, which is funded by The National Lottery Heritage Fund, made possible by National Lottery players. The site is identified as an East Anglian royal centre by The Venerable Bede in his *Ecclesiastical History of the English People*. To find out more about the Rendlesham Revealed project visit: [heritage.suffolk.gov.uk/rendlesham](http://heritage.suffolk.gov.uk/rendlesham)

**Merry Christmas to you all and Happy New Year!**

Please get in touch with me if you have questions or comments: [Jessica.fleming@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Jessica.fleming@suffolk.gov.uk)  
Tel: 07714-597980 Twitter: @jesstfleming