

County Councillor Report



Walsham-le-Willows Parish Council, April 2024

Councillor Jessica Fleming, Hartismere Division. Tel. 07714-597980 Jessica.fleming@suffolk.gov.uk

Consultation on Devolution Proposals - A 10-week public consultation on our proposed devolution deal with the Government runs from 18th March until 26th May. The consultation is available through our website www.suffolk.gov.uk/devolution and social media. The matter will be debated later this summer at full council.

Bus Service Improvements – The council will receive £3.6 million of Government funding over the next two years on Suffolk’s bus network from the Department for Transport’s Bus Service Improvement Fund Phase 2 for public transport in Suffolk through an Enhanced Partnership (SCC and local bus operators). <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/council-news/funding-boost-for-new-and-existing-bus-services-across-suffolk>

Suffolk’s Local Transport Plan The plan sets out a long-term vision for transport in Suffolk, and is under review. Feedback is currently sought on key themes in the fourth version of the plan to cover the period until 2040. Please do respond although the official deadline of 8th April has passed. Refer to <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/ltp4>.

Norwich to Tilbury Pylon Scheme - The [ESO East Anglia Network Study](#), published on 12 March 2024 by The National Grid Electricity System Operator, was set up to explore options for transmitting power Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex including onshore, offshore and hybrid schemes. The implications of the study findings are not yet known, and National Grid intends to commence its statutory consultation for the onshore route this summer, as planned. In summary, ESO options include:

Following the preliminary screening assessment, network configuration options have undergone holistic assessment using the above methodology. These are set out below:

- 1. Predominately offshore option – variation without EACN (connection point in N. Essex)*
- 2. Predominately offshore option – variation with EACN*
- 3. Onshore option*
- 4. Alternative onshore option – variation without Bramford to EACN*
- 5. Alternative onshore option – variation without EACN b. Alternative onshore option – variation without EACN – sensitivity*
- 6. Hybrid onshore and offshore option – variation with EACN*
- 7. Hybrid onshore and offshore option – variation without EACN*
- 8. Onshore High Voltage (HVDC) option*
- 9. Predominantly offshore option – Utilising Bradwell as a landing point.*

National Grid Pylons Consultation – Commences on 10th April and runs for 10 weeks:

<https://www.nationalgrid.com/electricity-transmission/network-and-infrastructure/infrastructure-projects/norwich-to-tilbury/public-consultation-and-programme>

The following public events will be held:

Tuesday 30 April 2024 12-5pm	Gislingham Village Hall, Mill Street, Gislingham, IP23 8JT
Wednesday 1 May 2024 11am-4pm	Copdock Village Hall, Old London Road, Copdock, IP8 3JN
Friday 3 May 2024 1-6pm	Needham Market Community Centre, School St, Needham Market, Ipswich, IP6 8BB
Saturday 4 May 2024 11am-4pm	Lawford Venture Centre 2000, Bromley Road, Lawford, Manningtree, CO11 2JE
Thursday 9 May 2024 2-7pm	Thorpe Hall, Ashwell Thorpe and Fundenhall Community Centre, Muskett Road, Ashwellthorpe, NR16 1FD
Friday 10 May 2024 1-6pm	Tibenham Community Hall, Pristow Green Lane, Tibenham, Norwich, NR16 1PX
Wednesday 15 May 2024 1-6pm	Diss Town Football Club, Diss, IP22 4QP

Suffolk Walking Festival - Kicks off on Saturday 11 May and takes place over two weeks with walks to suit all ages and backgrounds. Tickets for this year's walk are now on sale, visit www.suffolkwalkingfestival.co.uk for more details on the programme and to buy tickets.

SEND Services – Suffolk's SEND services are now provided through a Local Area Partnership which includes both Suffolk County Council and its NHS health service partners. In response to the first joint inspection of SEND by both Ofsted and the CQC (Care Quality Commission) last November a new Shadow Partnership Board has been set up with joint participation from the County Council and its NHS partners - refer to: <https://files.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/50238584>

Brome Reservoir, near Eye - Request for a Scoping Opinion (EIA) DC/24/00515 - Construction of a 15-ha reservoir and associated pipeline - in the Parishes of Yaxley, Eye & Hoxne. Currently awaiting a decision, with multiple constructive comments submitted during the relevant period. The reservoir would supply water from the Waveney River for Cranswick's chicken processing factory's proposed Phase 2 expansion and a new mill building DC/24/00513 on the Eye Airfield.

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