

Outline Report for May

Overall Summary of Our Activities over the past year.

Not surprisingly, the major part of our efforts throughout 2020 was dealing with the Covid problems. This involved financial support (distributing the grant from the Government and our own funds) and giving hands-on practical support. Consequently, my report is a bit lacking.

Suffolk County Council

Following the Local Elections we now have a new SCC representative covering Carlford and Fynn Valley. She is Elaine Bryce, Secretary to Dan Poulter, and many of you will know her from great work she did on the Northern Route campaign. Both Colin Hedgely and I have been working with her and we should see some big improvements over the coming months.

Community Partnerships

We have now completed our first year and have agreed on our priorities.

I have been sent the following briefing from Andrew Jolliffe.

The Partnership is starting to look at Environmental Care as its priority. We've already funded 10 small schemes in the area which are already having a great impact.

We are currently scoping a Green Villages Project which was suggested recently. The details are vague at the moment, but the general idea would be to work with a particular parish to have a practical impact on the environment. For example, more efficient lighting in community buildings, bike storage to encourage healthier travel, wildflower planting, garden care, wildlife support, and so on.

It will require working with various partners, land owners, residents, etc and the aim would be to create a 'first' in the district that can be duplicated elsewhere. It's a significant project and opportunity.

One of the essential partners would be the Parish Council, or a representative at least.

We have started contacting some of the larger parishes in our Ward, to raise the suggestion and gauge interest. Places where there are additional services (shops, pubs, halls, etc) would be preferable, for example Grundisburgh, Otley, etc.

Can I ask that if there are any opportunities for you to promote this project with Parish Councils – close contacts, calls, etc, that you do so? The voice of an experienced District Councillor could make the difference.

Key Areas to be investigated :-

- Green Villages,
- Environmental Design and Advice,
- Joint Working across the Parishes.
- Quiet Lanes

New Bins

In an attempt to reduce the amount of waste thrown onto our roads (and plastic in particular) ESC will be introducing a new style public waste bin. This will have two sections – one for recycled waste and one for land fill. It is hoped that with more of these around, people will dump their plastic waste as well.

A12 Improvements.

In the light of the vast increase in traffic (particularly HGV traffic) expected from the SZC development, the highways authority has undertaken a complete review of the A12 from Woods Lane in Woodbridge to the Seven Hills interchange. The public enquiry into this has been completed and the outline plans have been produced.

Timeline for the scheme

We'd like to see the Scheme completed by the end of 2025. Achieving this will depend on the Government's response to our business case, and on planning processes.

The shortest possible timeline is:

- Public consultation: February to March 2021
- Report to Suffolk County Council Cabinet: Summer 2021
- Submit outline business case to Department for Transport: Summer 2021
- Design development: Autumn 2021
- Progress detailed design, engagement and planning: Winter 2021 / 2022
- Start of construction: Autumn 2023

Estimated date for scheme completion: Winter 2025

SZC And Our Local Roads

Throughout the SZC discussions to date, the majority of effort has been concentrated on the Northern end of the route and on the impact on the A12. It is clear to those living along the minor roads that there could well be a very deleterious impact on our local roads and it must be addressed before we go much further,

I have had several meetings with EDF Energy in an attempt to correct this. Lots of promises have been made about controlling the traffic and local road improvements, but nothing, as yet, that's tangible. The key meeting was organised by Charsfield PC with Bill McGarry senior Director of EDF. This was a much more positive meeting and we have been promised that all the issues will be dealt with in a report to be published soon.

Planning – Statement of Community Involvement And Local Development Schedule.

The Statement of Community Involvement has been completely updated and sets out how and when people can have their say on planning policies and planning applications.

The Consultation Statement includes a summary of the comments received during the consultation on the Statement of Community Involvement and the Council's response.

The Adoption Statement gives an overview of the process and reasons for adopting the Statement of Community Involvement.

The Statement of Community Involvement, Consultation Statement, other supporting documents and the Adoption Statement are available to view on the Council's website:

<https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy-and-local-plans/local-plans/statement-of-community-involvement-and-local-development-scheme/>

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May 2021