

## **MARCH 2022 REPORT**

### **Tony Fryatt**

#### **Community Partnerships.**

We would like to hear from as many of the Parish Councils during this consultation as possible. Every Parish Council in our area has engaged with the CP in some way over the last two and a half years, so we hope they take the opportunity to be more involved.

I'm conscious that Parish Council meetings will be happening over the coming weeks and would respectfully ask that you encourage Parishes to participate and have their views heard. Your support would be greatly appreciated as we move into the next financial year and want to have even more engagement with all parishes regardless of population or size.

#### **Road Safety Forum.**

This was held on 17 January and the minutes are now available. Some very useful proposals were exchanged. Thank you all who attended. The next meeting has not been fixed but it will be in May.

#### **Supplementary Planning Document.**

The Planning Policy and Delivery Team, alongside Development Management, are in the process of preparing a new Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) to provide further guidance on the application of two policies in the Local Plans. The review will cover: -

SCLP5.4 (Housing in Clusters in the Countryside) and

WLP8.7 (Small Scale Residential Development in the Countryside.)

These have been the cause of several disagreements since the changes were introduced and this is an opportunity to make the changes we need.

You will have received an invitation to a workshop to discuss these on 31<sup>st</sup> March.

#### **East Suffolk Council budget approved**

The Council's budget for the 2022/23 financial year has been approved, and as part of our commitment to improve the lives and outcomes of local people, finance has been approved for a range of different areas, including £3.35m for economic development and regeneration, £2.46m supporting and enabling communities and £2.39m for our housing services.

The budget also includes a further £428,000 to support our green agenda, as part of our pledge to be carbon neutral by 2030.

Read more at [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/news/essential-services-in-difficult-times-east-suffolk-council-budget-approved/](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/news/essential-services-in-difficult-times-east-suffolk-council-budget-approved/)

#### **Surveys and consultations**

The Local Planning Authority is currently undertaking a review of its Local Validation List, which currently comprises guidance the factors to consider when assessing a planning application. The current Local Validation list can be viewed via the link on [How to submit a planning application » East Suffolk Council](#)

The content and requirements of any revised / new Local Validation List will need to be in accordance with Town and Planning Act 1990 and the relevant Regulations. It will also seek to reflect local policy requirements. It cannot and will not remove any existing national legislative requirements relating to the plans and documents required to validate an application but will add additional local requirements where those matters/documents are reasonably required to enable the Local Planning Authority to understand the proposals and assess their potential impacts, which in turn will enable the determination of the application.

There will also be an aim to revise and potentially restructure the document to make it easier to understand which documents are required when submitting applications.

This initial consultation period will expire at **Midnight on 13 March 2022**.

A further consultation period will take place later in the year, during which you will be invited for comments on the revised draft document.

### **East Suffolk Council distributes oak trees for 'Treebilee' celebrations**

Two hundred oak trees have been distributed to communities across East Suffolk to plant in commemoration of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee. The 'Treebilee' scheme was launched by HRH The Prince of Wales to encourage the planting of trees during a year of celebrations to mark The Queen's 70-year reign.

As part of its involvement in the project, officially known as the Queen's Green Canopy, East Suffolk Council purchased 200 English oak trees which have been donated to every town and parish council in the district – as a way of marking the occasion while helping to tackle climate change and promoting environmentally sustainable communities.

### **Streetlighting Upgrade.**

Some of the standard streetlights maintained by Suffolk County Council in our local area are set to be upgraded to more efficient and environmentally friendly LED lanterns as part of a project being delivered during 2021/22

Work in **Westerfield** is set to start within the next month. Black and yellow 'Work Starts Here' signs will appear on specific streets shortly before upgrades take place in that location. *Please note that we will **not** be replacing all streetlighting lanterns, as some have already had LED units fitted and some areas will be upgraded separately as part of dedicated improvement schemes.*

Please **feel free to share information about the above works locally** to raise awareness of this taking place, also linking to the FAQ page link above on the Suffolk County Council website for further information. Please direct any public enquiries about this project to email: [customer.services@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:customer.services@suffolk.gov.uk) or call 0345 606 6171 (phone lines are open Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 5:30pm).

Tony Fryatt  
7 March 2022