A Joint Report to Great Bealings Parish Council for the year 2018-2019. From the Suffolk Coastal District Councillors for Woodbridge Ward



Cllr Colin Hedgley <u>colin.hedgley@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk</u>
Cllr Geoff Holdcroft <u>geoff.holdcroft@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk</u>
Cllr Patti Mulcahy <u>patricia.mulcahy@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk</u>

This report provides an overview of the Suffolk Coastal District Council's key challenges and achievements for the past year 2018/19.

Through our ward reports we have kept you informed and up to date with all that has been going on but we would like to take this opportunity to update and remind you of a few items.

It was another busy and interesting year for us and we would like to take this opportunity to thank you everyone for your support. It is impossible to cover every single item over the past year but below is a reminder of a few things.

SCDC's response to Sizewell C proposals

SCDC, together with SCC, were disappointed by EDF Energy's lack of detailed proposals in their Stage 3 public consultation plans for a new nuclear site on Suffolk's east coast and called on them to work collaboratively to demonstrate the value of the proposed development.

The joint report makes it clear that whilst the authorities continue to support the principle of a new nuclear power station at Sizewell and recognise the significant benefits that such a development would bring, both councils are disappointed that EDF Energy's plans have not evolved as much as they had hoped between consultation stages 2 and 3. This means both councils are still not yet able to fully support the proposals.

The scale of investment surrounding development of a new site at Sizewell would be similar to the London 2012 Olympics, believed to be worth around £14 billion. The construction site would take up to 300 hectares of land, largely within the Suffolk Coast and Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). The development's workforce would be 5,600 at its peak, plus another 500 in supporting roles. Once in operation, the power station would create 900 permanent jobs. EDF Energy expects the development to generate £100m for the regional economy during construction and £40m each year during its operation.

With a project of such size and scale, the two local authorities need to be absolutely clear that the advantages outweigh the disadvantages before they offer their full support. Both authorities currently believe that a number of the impacts identified in EDF Energy's proposals are still not yet developed or evidenced sufficiently, so Suffolk County Council and Suffolk Coastal District Council are calling for EDF Energy to be collaborative and share more detail and information to satisfy current concerns. The offer is there to work with EDF Energy to help them develop their proposals and to resolve the necessary mitigation, in advance of their submission of an application to the Planning Inspectorate. It is in all parties' interest that the Sizewell C development becomes a proposition which can work in and for Suffolk.

Proposals for Sizewell C will be considered under the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) process which is part of the Planning Act 2008. The planning application will be examined by the Planning Inspectorate who will make a recommendation to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS). It will be the Secretary of State who makes the decision on whether the proposal will be approved.

Based on the nature of this planning process, both Suffolk councils have an important role to play in putting forward the views of the local community. As consultees, the councils are committed to doing all they can to make sure the development can work for the people of Suffolk as well as significantly contributing to the nation's energy needs.

There will also be a key role for the councils in providing a Local Impact Report for the examination of the application by the Planning Inspectorate. The new East Suffolk Council, will, as local planning authority, be responsible for discharging the requirements (planning conditions) on the Development Consent Order and be responsible for the monitoring and enforcement of any DCO made.

SCDC's response to Scottish Power Renewables proposals

SCDC, along with SCC, raised serious concerns around plans for windfarm projects proposed by Scottish Power Renewables, and the lack of coordination with other energy projects proposed on the coast. The authorities continued to support the principle of offshore wind to reduce carbon emissions and provide significant economic benefits in the county and the UK, but have made it clear that this should not be achieved at any cost to Suffolk.

Reports, jointly written and were presented at each authority's Cabinet meetings, in response to ScottishPower Renewables proposals for the East Anglia Offshore Windfarms One (North) and Two. They contain recommendations of co-ordinated actions to protect Suffolk's coastline.

The reports contain over 100 points, covering a wide range of concerns about the East Anglia Offshore Windfarms One (North) and Two. These range from the impact on our land and seascapes, to the Government's role in managing a variety of projects on Suffolk's coast.

Film industry generates £3.8 million for Suffolk's economy

Suffolk's economy has benefitted from at least £3.8 million of additional investment because of work to attract film makers to the county. Screen Suffolk, an organisation set up in 2016 by councils in the county and funded by the Suffolk Public Sector Leaders group, actively markets hundreds of Suffolk locations to the filmmaking industry, as well as connecting them to local crews, hotels and restaurants and film services.

Suffolk to host opening stage of 2019 Women's Tour

Following the success of the OVO Energy Tour of Britain last year, east Suffolk once again welcomed the OVO Energy Women's Tour which kicked off from Framlingham and finished in Southwold, taking in many parts of our wonderful district, cycling has grown in popularity and has become a well-loved sport in this part of the world

Suffolk will host the opening stage of the 2019 OVO Energy Women's Tour on Monday 10 June, marking the fifth time that the race has visited the county. The county also becomes the first venue to be confirmed for the 2020 edition of the race, with the news that Suffolk County Council and the East Suffolk councils will partner with event organisers Sweet Spot Group in a two-year deal to bring the UCI Women's World Tour event to the county in both 2019 and 2020.

We are delighted to welcome the OVO Energy Women's Tour back to Suffolk for a fifth year, and our fourth time of hosting the Grand Depart. The Women's Tour and events like it all contribute to our ambition to make Suffolk England's most active county. We hope that this year's race inspires even more people to take up cycling and take part in the wide range of events Suffolk has to offer, such as Women on Wheels as part of an active and healthy lifestyle. It is always a much-celebrated event in Suffolk's Sporting Calendar, greatly enjoyed by local communities.

Top food safety ratings for local businesses

More East Suffolk businesses have been awarded a Food Hygiene Rating of 5 - the highest level possible.

Inspections by Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Council's Food and Safety Team between September and December 2018 saw over 220 local businesses receiving Food Hygiene Rating Scheme (FHRS) ratings of '5/very good', highlighting their dedication to hygiene and excellent approach to food safety. The Food Hygiene Rating Scheme (FHRS) helps customers make an informed choice about where to eat by highlighting restaurants, pubs and cafés with excellent food hygiene. Food businesses can display their black and green FHRS sticker advertising their current food safety rating, which gives customers an immediate insight into the kitchen and shows how seriously the business takes food hygiene.

Customers are encouraged to check food hygiene ratings when choosing where to eat by looking for the FHRS sticker before ordering food. The ratings of over 440,000 food businesses can also be checked online. To help businesses ensure that employees are appropriately trained, Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils jointly

ran a nationally recognised training course, the Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering.

Helping hospital patients to get home

Suffolk Coastal District Council has received £87,000 in funding to support the 'Stepping Home' project. Stepping Home is a partnership project between the East Suffolk councils, Ipswich Borough Council, Suffolk County Council, Mid Suffolk and Babergh District Councils, East Suffolk and North Essex NHS Foundation Trust, Orwell Housing, British Red Cross and Lofty Heights and is supported by the Ipswich and East Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group's Transformation Fund, which encourages groups in Suffolk to 'think outside the box' to find ways to reduce pressure on the health system in the county.

Working through Ipswich Hospital, officers from the Council's Warm Homes Healthy People team discovered patients are often unable to be discharged once medically fit due to their housing (known as a Delayed Transfer of Care, or DTOC). The patient could be awaiting adaptations such as a stair lift or ramps, a declutter, a home repair after a minor fire, flood or other reasons.

When a patient is medically fit, a hospital environment is not a suitable location. In a ward setting, they are at risk of infection, deconditioning, and being de-skilled. It is not uncommon for patients to be 'stuck' and unable to return home for several days or sometimes weeks and this also uses a bed which could be used by another patient.

Communities benefit from new developments

Local communities in east Suffolk are seeing the benefit from new developments happening across the District. Since the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) scheme was introduced in east Suffolk, over £4.5 million has been collected from commenced and completed developments. Of this, over £2.1 million has already been distributed or earmarked to help deliver infrastructure projects to facilitate growth currently taking place across the District. In most circumstances it replaces or complements the traditional Section 106 process of securing developer contributions towards infrastructure.

Parish and Town Councils receive 15% of CIL funds which are collected from development in their area. A further 10% is available to the councils which have introduced the Neighbourhood Plan. So separately, a total of just over £700,000 has been paid to Parish and Town Councils in east Suffolk.

Locally the Jetty Lane Project was awarded £188,800 CIL funding by SCDC's Cabinet this past year.

Boost for local communities

Local community groups have so far received a funding boost of over £126,000 this year - thanks to SCDC's Enabling Communities Budget (ECB) was set up in December 2013 to support local projects and activities which benefit those living in the district. The budget has supported everything from new play areas, improvements to community buildings, charities that help the members of our communities, sports clubs and activities which cater to all ages. (see above)

One of the key priorities in our Business Plan is enabling communities to develop and deliver worthwhile schemes and projects to local people. This funding is an important contribution to that ambition. The scheme ensures that we are able to support the breadth of our district, including younger and older people, and get behind projects and activities that benefit our communities, protects our heritage and teaches crucial life skills.

From our local Enabling Communities Budgets we have helped various groups and projects throughout the year;

Geoff Holdcroft

| Bealings Community Hub | Funding towards updating the heating at the community hub | 1000 |
|--------------------------------|--|--------|
| Just 42 | To purchase drug boxes to raise awareness of substance misuse at events | 565 |
| The Woodbridge Memory Bike | To help fund towards the hire of trishaw/bike for a year | 1500 |
| Friends of St Mary's School | To help fund for two after school clubs. 1) to purchase garden equipment and 2) to purchase equipment for a after school Lego club to enhance the children's STEM skills | 382.85 |
| Maritime Woodbridge | To help fund towards the Maritime Woodbridge Festival | 287 |
| Deben Swimming Club | To fund towards starting blocks at the club | 2500 |

Colin Hedgley

| Bealings Community Hub | Funding towards updating the heating at the community hub | 3500 |
|----------------------------------|---|------|
| Bealings Youth Action Theatre | Funding to upgrade the theatres lighting system | 1000 |
| Deben Swimming Club | To fund towards starting blocks at the club | 2000 |

Patti Mulcahy

| Aspect Living | To purchase a vehicle to enable a 20% increase in vulnerable people having access to nutritious meals | 1000 |
|--------------------------------|--|--------|
| Bealings Community Hub | Funding towards updating the heating at the community hub | 1000 |
| Friends of St Mary's School | To help fund for two after school clubs. 1) to purchase garden equipment and 2) to purchase equipment for a after school Lego club to enhance the children's STEM skills | 382.85 |
| Woodbridge Town Council | To help fund towards a street party in Peterhouse Crescent Green in September. This is to engage with the local residents and families. | 300 |
| Deben Swimming Club | To fund towards starting blocks at the club | 2000 |

Photo competition winners announced

The winners of the second East Suffolk Photo Competition have been announced by Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils.

The five-week long competition, which ran during August and early September, invited amateur and professional photographers to submit their photos to the Councils under four categories; living in East Suffolk, working in East Suffolk, explore East Suffolk and under 16s.

In November, the entries were judged and we were once again overwhelmed by the amount and the quality of the entries, which all highlight the beauty of East Suffolk. It was incredibly difficult to choose between them all however we feel that the chosen winners really captured the spirit of the area. Thank you to everyone that took part.

Dog owners are reminded to clear up after their pets!

Our district is a really dog friendly place and we know that most dog owners are responsible and clear up after their pets. There are a small number of inconsiderate people who feel the rules do not apply to them, but there is absolutely no excuse for failing to clear up after your dog. We want to ensure that all public areas are safe for everyone to enjoy and will not hesitate to take action against anyone who is found responsible for despoiling our environment. The council introduced Public Space Protection Orders in January 2018 to tackle dog fouling across the district. Failure to clear up after a dog in your control could result in a fixed penalty notice of £80 being issued. Failure to pay the fixed penalty notice may lead to prosecution and a potential maximum fine of £1000. Suffolk Coastal has a statutory duty to keep public land clear of litter and refuse, including dog fouling and will take action against irresponsible individuals who fail to clear up after their dogs within a restricted area. Not only is dog fouling highly unpleasant, it is also a hazard to health.

Suffolk Coastal Steps in to Buy Strategic Leiston Property

Suffolk Coastal District Council has stepped in to buy a strategically significant parcel of property in central Leiston – to safeguard the local Neighbourhood Plan. The property, just off Leiston's High Street, was due to come up for sale at auction. However, the site is integral to the delivery of the Leiston Neighbourhood Plan's 'vision' to revitalise the town centre, by creating a new 'hub' made up of community, commercial and residential uses. While the 'vision' to revitalise Leiston town centre does face some challenges, it is still being actively promoted and pursued by Leiston Town Council and ourselves. If the site had been sold to an owner, who was not willing to cooperate in the delivery of this vision, it would obviously have made any further progress on this initiative impossible. So, Suffolk Coastal stepped in to buy the land and safe guard these aspirations for the future.

Free parking at festive events

People attending festive events across east Suffolk enjoyed free parking in council-owned car parks at set times on selected dates. Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils once again supported local communities by offering free use of council-owned car parks to support Christmas events in the district.

Town and parish councils were also offered two sessions of 2-hours free parking slots on dates and times of their choosing - to be used to bolster festive events, such as late-night shopping, taking place in the run up to Christmas.

Celebrated our apprentices

The East Suffolk Councils of Suffolk Coastal and Waveney have welcomed just shy of 100 apprentices to the organisation in six years and they recently celebrated the achievements of the latest 'in-take' with a special graduation ceremony. Working with the training provider, Nova Training, 14 young people completed their apprenticeship in 2018, with 10 now in full time roles within east Suffolk. This brings to 61 the number of people currently with the councils in either current apprenticeship roles or either permanent or fixed-term positions. Many have also gone on to get higher level qualifications — in Housing, Customer Services and leadership and management and the current crop have worked across a variety of teams — from Planning and Coastal Management to Communities, HR and IT.

Suffolk wins praise at the national Community Energy Awards 2018

The Suffolk Climate Change Partnership has received a national award for supporting local communities to be more energy efficient. An expert panel of judges awarded the Local Authority Award to the Partnership for its close working with local organisations.

This includes exploring how organisations can be more energy efficient, helping to source funding, producing a community energy toolkit, providing technical support and investing in energy efficiency installations. In addition, over 120 community buildings have received in-depth advice and support to be more energy efficient.

The Suffolk Climate Change Partnership is a collaboration of Suffolk County Council, all Suffolk's borough and district councils and The Environment Agency. It supports the county's communities, businesses and residents to reduce carbon emissions, realise the economic benefits of reducing energy consumption and adapt to the future impacts of climate change. Its work has brought in significant amounts of external funding to Suffolk, running highly-successful projects for its customers.

Services of Remembrance across East Suffolk

Commemorations marking the centenary of the end of the First World War will took place across East Suffolk on and around 11 November. We helped to support people who want to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Armistice Day, Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils by offering free parking at every council-owned car park across Suffolk Coastal and Waveney for the entire day.

Crucial Crew helps children keep safe

Children in Suffolk Coastal were invited to learn more about safety in a fun and engaging environment. Crucial Crew taught year 6 pupils (10-11 years) about staying safe in their everyday life.

Organised by Suffolk Coastal District Council and the Suffolk Coastal Rotary Clubs, Crucial Crew is supported by a number of partnership agencies including Suffolk Police, Suffolk Fire & Rescue Service, East Suffolk Communities Team, Suffolk County Council, Turning Point, Make a Chance Team and Onelife Suffolk, with funding raised by the Rotary District clubs.

It teaches children how to tackle the personal dangers they face and helps to prevent them from becoming involved in crime. The scheme raises their awareness in a fun and effective way so that they may be better equipped to increase their own and others safety.

Honour Run 2018 success

The first ever Honour Run proved to be a great success when it took place in October in Rendlesham Forest. Around 250 walkers, joggers and runners of all ages took part in the run and raised a total of £2,600 for the Suffolk British

Legion Poppy Appeal, which supports serving and ex-serving men and women in the armed forces. This was the first time we've put on this kind of event and it was a huge success. Thank you to everyone who took part in the run and all the volunteers who helped us run the event. We raised £2,600 for the Suffolk British Legion Poppy Appeal which is fantastic. The event was organised by Suffolk Coastal District Council and Suffolk British Legion with thanks going to the Forestry Commission and Rock Barracks who supported the event by letting us to use of the facilities.

Deben Leisure Centre was officially opened

The new and improved Deben Leisure Centre opened in June 2018, after undergoing a £3.5 million refurbishment, bringing state-of-the-art leisure facilities to Woodbridge. These include a swimming pool, spin studio, dance studio and 54 piece gym. The leisure centre was the first facility to be redeveloped as part of the council's five year programme of improvement to leisure provision and will be followed by Leiston and Felixstowe. In the year since its reopening membership attendances have exceeded all forecasts and is extremely popular with swimmers and gym users alike.

Leiston Leisure Centre and Fitness Boost for Local Academy

The £3.5million refurbishment of Leiston Leisure Centre also gave a fitness boost to a local academy. Work began on Leiston Leisure Centre in September. As part of the refurbishment, the centre will get new, state-of-the-art leisure equipment.

However, the gym's current equipment was still high quality and has many years of use left in it, so Suffolk Coastal District Council donated it to the nearby Alde Valley Academy to bolster its ability to encourage youngsters to keep fit. Suffolk Coastal and Alde Valley Academy have worked closely together in the past and we look forward to continue to do so in the future to improve the health of the community and the quality of facilities available. The academy's Physical Education team choose a mixture of mainly Techno Gym CV and fixed resistance equipment from the leisure centre, which has now been installed and is available for use by the students. This 'recycling' of the gym equipment to the local academy supports Suffolk Coastal's strategic aim of encouraging people of all ages in the District to live healthier lifestyles and become more active.

The refurbished Leiston Leisure Centre has been designed with the Council's leisure development partner, Pulse Design & Build and operators, Places Leisure, to include a new spacious gym with modern equipment, and a new health suite by the pool area. The plans also include a high quality village style changing area by the pool. This will be family friendly with cubicles for parent and child, separate changing areas for groups, which can also be used by the public when empty and individual changing cubicles and showers.

More fitness classes will be available with two new dance studios and a group cycling studio, which will also serve as multi-bookable rooms as well as numerous other improvements.

The refurbishment is part of the Council's five year programme to improve leisure facilities for the district and encourage more people to become more active.

Much-needed parking boost for Woodbridge

The project to create much-needed car parking spaces in Woodbridge was completed in time for Easter. The project at Station Road car park provides an extra 50 parking spaces, speed humps and new bike racks. The installation of charging points for two electrical cars and the new ticket machine and tariff board will be completed shortly.

The first phase of the project started in November 2018 with the closure of The Avenue car park. An extra 13 parking spaces were created as well as new bike racks and the car park reopened to the public in January 2019. There is no exit from the car park for cars via Jetty Lane at the request of local residents – all traffic will exit via Station Road. This is to manage the traffic flow in the area.

East Suffolk Area Parking Plan Consultation

Across Suffolk, we are in the process of transferring power to enforce on-street parking from the police to local authorities. Ahead of taking on civil parking enforcement (CPE), the Department for Transport requires that enforcement authorities wishing to operate CPE need to provide evidence of our parking policies and strategies.

Operation Camouflage, another success

Children in Suffolk Coastal were asked to put their best foot forward to have fun this summer at Operation Camouflage. The military-themed summer activity was back for the eleventh year running. The aim of the event, organised by Suffolk Coastal District Council and the Army Welfare Service (AWS) with funding contributed by The Soldiers' Charity, was to bring young people from different backgrounds together to do challenges and learn new skills while having fun.

Suffolk geared up for top charity cycle ride

Following the success of the OVO Energy Women's Tour in Suffolk earlier, amateur cyclists were invited to have the chance to sample much of the route themselves. The event started and finished in Southwold, with cyclists taking on either a 30 or 80 mile route that combine roads that were being used for the opening stage of the OVO Energy Women's Tour with some that have been used in previous editions of the race – for example the beautiful coastal route from Thorpeness to Aldeburgh.

Tackling dementia in young people

Suffolk Coastal residents were invited to work with Suffolk Mind to help tackle early onset dementia. Suffolk Mind is launching a new service to support people in Suffolk who have traits or a diagnosis of young onset dementia. Figures suggest that those who live with the condition may be up to 6-9% of all people with dementia. Overall in Suffolk, it is estimated that 12,800 people are living with dementia. To coincide with Dementia Action Week the Alzheimer's Society was present at our Customer Services centres to provide information, advice and support to those living with dementia and those who know someone living with dementia.

Suffolk residents urged to be scam aware

East Suffolk and Suffolk Trading Standards are reminding and urging Suffolk residents to be scam aware. Last year, Citizens Advice found that almost three quarters of people surveyed had been targeted by a scam in the previous two years (2015-17). It is estimated that only 5-15% of scams are reported, and some people don't even know they have been scammed.

Scammers target people by post, phone calls, text messages, emails, and they even visit homes without any warning. Scams come in a variety of forms, from lottery scams to fake ticketing and emails, but ultimately a scam is any attempt to fraudulently obtain money or something else of value.

While new scams crop up all the time, the tactics of scammers remain the same. They will often:

- Contact you out of the blue
- Ask for personal or financial details
- Put you under pressure to respond quickly
- Ask you to keep their offer secret
- Make promises or offers that sound too good to be true
- Suffolk Trading Standards is advising residents to:
- Verify the identity of strangers
- Look out for grammatical or spelling mistakes in letters or flyers
- Never give out bank details
- Never send money to strangers
- Say no to persuasive sales talk

Suffolk Trading Standards has the ability to prosecute those who undertake these misleading actions and provides support and advice to victims of scams. As part of the fight against scammers, Suffolk Trading Standards implements 'No Cold Calling Zones', just one way that doorstep scams can be stopped. More information is available at: www.suffolk.gov.uk/nocoldcallingzone.

They also manage a Consumer Champion Network, where residents receive the latest information on scams which they pass on to their local communities. Anyone can become a Consumer Champion by visiting: www.suffolk.gov.uk/JoinTheFight.

Scammers often target the county's most vulnerable residents, but this is not always the case, therefore all Suffolk residents must be vigilant. We urge anyone who is concerned that they or a friend or family member might have

been scammed to call the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on: 03454 040506 or Action Fraud, the UK national fraud office on: 0300 1232040.

We Helped businesses prepare for GDPR

To help prepare businesses for the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) which came into force in May, Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils and the East Suffolk Partnership joined with The DPO Centre to provide an online toolkit with advice and tips on how to get your organisation ready for GDPR.

The toolkit provided advice and support on what business owners need to consider, as well as a checklist of actions on what to do next, all aimed at ensuring you are able to implement the necessary changes.

The GDPR was the biggest change in data protection legislation for over 20 years, so it was vital that organisations large and small understood their new obligations. The free policy toolkit provided East Suffolk organisations with the support they needed to improve their knowledge, along with the documentation required to demonstrate their compliance.

Local plan documents submitted to Planning Inspectorate

Suffolk Coastal has now submitted Local Plan documents to the Planning Inspectorate for independent examination. The submission, on Friday 29 March 2019, is the next stage in the Local Plan process, following a six-week publication for representations to soundness in January this year. During this period, we received 1525 representations from 569 individuals and organisations.

Following the submission to the Planning Inspectorate, the public hearing stage of the Examination is expected to be held during the summer of 2019. We will publish the date once it has been confirmed. Once adopted, the Local Plan sets out the policies which will guide development in the District over the period to 2036.

£455,000 Boost for Affordable Homes in Bawdsey

One of the last decisions made by Suffolk Coastal District Council was for its Cabinet to award a £455,000 grant to the newly formed Peninsula Villages Community Land Trust (PVCLT). The money is to support the PVCLT to achieve its vision of providing affordable homes in the area, by purchasing four affordable homes in Bawdsey for rent to people with a local connection.

Representatives from Parishes on the Peninsula have worked together for over a year to set up a Community Land Trust – an organization dedicated to tackling the lack of affordable homes for local people in the coastal villages. With help and guidance from Suffolk Coastal, the Trust has been able to make tremendous progress and it is now at the stage where it can offer tangible help to local people needing affordable homes."

PVCLT is working with Crocus Homes to purchase their first four affordable homes on a site in School Lane Bawdsey. Once built, the homes will be managed by Orwell Housing Association on behalf of the PVCLT. The problem local people face is that many of them, who were brought up here or work on the peninsula, find there is a lack of suitable accommodation and house prices are a barrier to living here. The primary aim is to work collaboratively with housing associations to ensure that there is more affordable housing for rent in our parishes. This will enable local people to stay in the area, to live and work in these villages and help provide our communities with a more sustainable future.

It sums up the 'can do' attitude of our local communities, banding together to make a real difference to the housing situation in their area. We will do what we can to support this, and similar initiatives, to help provide the affordable homes needed to allow local people to stay in the area and for our economy to continue to flourish.

Cllrs Colin Hedgley, Geoff Holdcroft & Patti Mulcahy