



# District Councillor's Report to Great Bealings Parish Council

For September 2021

## Carlford and Fynn Valley Ward.

Rushmere Village, Great Bealings, Little Bealings, Playford, Bredfield, Grundisburgh & Culpho, Witlesham and Swilland, Westerfield, Hasketon, Clopton, Charsfield, Dallinghoo, Tuddenham, Boulge, Burgh, Debach, Otley.

### From District Councillor Cllr Colin Hedgley

#### Bid to become City of Culture 2025

East Suffolk Council have joined forces with Great Yarmouth Borough Council for a bid to become UK City of Culture 2025.

The bid aims to showcase the region's rich and multi-layered culture, its diversity, its people and their creativity, experiences, buildings and landscapes, opening them up to be enjoyed and engaged with by everyone and creating a cultural legacy for future generations.



It will play a key role in the efforts of both communities to overcome their challenges, helping local people to recover from the effects of the pandemic and forge new opportunities ahead, especially for young people.

This is the first time a collection of linked or neighbouring towns have been eligible to apply together, and the joint bid has won the support of the New Anglia LEP, Norfolk County Council, Suffolk County Council, Norfolk Community Foundation, Norfolk Chambers of Commerce, Suffolk Chambers of Commerce, the area's three local MPs and many other major regional public sector stakeholders, arts and community organisations.

The decision on whether our bid has made it onto the long list will be announced in early September 2021, with the UK City of Culture 2025 winner being announced in May next year.



## Former council offices back on the market

The former council offices on Melton Hill in Woodbridge have been empty for five years and following the end of contract with the site's original developer, we are once again marketing the 3.23-acre site for sale to provide much-needed housing in this popular area.

To ensure that local people's views are being heard and taken into consideration, we would like to see any potential developer coming forward to forging a close working relationship with the local community and Woodbridge Town Council.

Furthermore, ESC are committed to addressing the need for more affordable homes in the area and, as with any planning application of this size, the Planning Authority would expect any development to include provision for at least 33% affordable housing.

The site is being marketed by Beckland Property Consultancy and Brown & Co and interested developers should contact them directly for more information. Contact details can be found at [www.brown-co.com](http://www.brown-co.com)

## Reconnecting older people in East Suffolk



ESC is continuing to trial the Grandpad Loan Scheme, which is aimed at tackling social isolation amongst older residents or those struggling to use technology, particular those who have little or no contact with loved ones or the outside world due to a lack of Wi-Fi, equipment and/or skills.

Initially launched in July 2020, the scheme has now been extended for another 12 months and a total of 175 Grandpads are now available to be

lent (free of charge) to older residents across the district who have been identified as being socially isolated. The devices, specifically designed around the need of older adults, include unlimited 4G internet, 24/7 personalised care and unlimited minutes, so users can easily make phone calls as no extra costs.

To nominate an eligible person for a Grandpad or for more information, people should email [communities@eastsoffolk.gov.uk](mailto:communities@eastsoffolk.gov.uk) or call 01502 523119.

## Older residents invited to free cooking workshops

Older people living in East Suffolk are invited to attend free cooking workshops to learn new cooking skills and recipes in a relaxed social setting.

The cooking workshops has been funded through the Interreg's European Regional Development Fund and is being delivered in a partnership between East Suffolk Council, Suffolk County Council and Food Savvy.



Hosted by Chef Emma Crowhurst, the aim of the workshops is to help older people get more 'food savvy', so they can cook easy, nutritious and affordable meals at home, whilst in a relaxed social setting, where they can meet new people and make new connections.

Participants will also have the opportunity to meet link-workers from Connected Communities, which is a project designed to help older people who are feeling socially isolated and lonely to access health and well-being facilities and linking them to existing social and community groups.

There are 2 workshops to choose from, all start at 10am and finishing at approx 2.30.

- 9 September at Hollesley Village Hall
- 10 September at The Burness Parish Rooms, Melton

If you, or someone who know could benefit from attended one of these sessions, please call 07385 415180 or email [louise.carter@eastsoffolk.gov.uk](mailto:louise.carter@eastsoffolk.gov.uk)

## **Residents urged to check waste carrier details**

Householders in East Suffolk are being reminded of their legal responsibility when disposing of their household waste, after a Suffolk resident was fined over £1,200.

At a hearing at Ipswich Magistrates' Court on Wednesday 18 August, Kelly Holmes from Ipswich was charged with failing to fulfil her 'duty of care' towards household waste contrary to Section 34(2A) and (6) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

On 17 March 2020, the Council's Customer Services Team received a report of three black bags of waste which had been left on the verge in Monument Farm Lane, Foxhall. During a site visit the next day, officers from East Suffolk Norse found that the bags contained household waste, including paperwork addressed to Miss Holmes. When contacted, Miss Holmes stated that the waste was removed from her home address by a third party, along with some scrap items. Miss Holmes was given six weeks to provide details of this person however she did not respond and on 15 May 2020, she was issued with an £200 Fixed Penalty Notice, reduced to £120 if paid within 10 days. Miss Holmes failed to pay this notice, despite reminders being sent.

Miss Holmes did not attend her court hearing, having written to the court asking for the case to be heard in her absence. The court found Miss Holmes guilty of breaching Section 34(2A) and (6) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and fined her £200 for the offence, plus £1,000 for costs and £34 for the victim surcharge, totalling £1,234.

Cllr James Mallinder, East Suffolk's cabinet member for the Environment said: "There is no excuse for littering or fly-tipping. All residents have a responsibility to ensure their household waste is disposed of properly and if you arrange for someone else to remove waste from your home on your behalf, you must keep details of this person or business. If your waste is found fly-tipped and you are



unable to provide details about who took it away, then you will be held responsible and, as can be seen in this case, may have to pay a considerable fine.

“The high costs incurred here could have easily been avoided by paying the Fixed Penalty Notice when it was issued, or better still, ensuring the waste was properly disposed of in the first place. Residents should always use a licensed waste carrier, obtain a receipt and note down the registration number of the vehicle used to take their rubbish away.

“Disposing of waste correctly and reducing fly-tipping is an important aspect of dealing with the climate emergency. Information on how to dispose of all types of household waste can be found at [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk) and at [www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk](http://www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk).”

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## Other News from the East Suffolk Area.



The new “Bug Hotel”  
outside the Melton East  
Suffolk Council offices.

## FelixFest – The ultimate weekend of family fun

To celebrate the Women’s Tour, one of the UK’s biggest sporting events, finishing in Felixstowe this October, we’re hosting FelixFest in partnership with Felixstowe Town Council – an ultimate weekend of fun for local people and visitors alike.



The celebrations will be taking place on the weekend of 8 - 10 October, kicking off on the Friday night with an outdoor cinema. The movie is yet to be decided, and all suggestions are welcome by email on [leisure@eastsoffolk.gov.uk](mailto:leisure@eastsoffolk.gov.uk)

The Saturday will see some of the

world's best cyclists racing to be crowned the 2021 Women's Tour champion in the Final Stage on Sea Road.

Activities will be taking place on Saturday 9 October at the finishing line, prior to the Women's Tour final stage, including a 10km bike ride, children's races and lots of demonstration activities.

There will also be a Tour Village with stalls providing information, activities and representations from some of the sponsors of the Tour, a Pump Track for people to have a go on and entertainment and information talks on the podium over the weekend.

Felixstowe's first ever open water Triathlon will be taking place on the Sunday, with a standard (1500m swim, 40km bike and 10km run), sprint (750m swim, 20km bike and 5km run) and supersprint (300m swim, 20km bike and 3km run) on offer. The sprint and supersprint is open to all teams and businesses and you can enter now via [www.felixstowetriathlon.uk](http://www.felixstowetriathlon.uk)

More information about the weekend, including road closures and parking suspensions, can be found at [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/leisure/womens-tour-and-felixfest/](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/leisure/womens-tour-and-felixfest/)

## Repairs to Southwold Harbour fender

Essential work to repair a fender at the entrance to Southwold Harbour begun on 19 July and is expected to be completed by the end of August, subject to safe working conditions.

Originally built in 1992, the fender prevents vessels from colliding with rock armour around the North Pier when entering or leaving the harbour. The repair involves removing and replacing steel piles, timber parts and the navigation light mast and gantry.

For safety reasons, there's no public access to the North Pier, dunes and beach to the east of the harbour car park for the duration of the works; the works compound is also occupying part of the car park so normal car parking capacity is reduced.



Full information can be found at [www.coasteast.org.uk/latest-news-repairs-maintenance](http://www.coasteast.org.uk/latest-news-repairs-maintenance)

## **Felixstowe becomes a Suffolk PING! Town**

Felixstowe has officially become Suffolk's second PING! Town with 8 outdoor tables sited throughout the town.

The tables – located at six key play areas in the town along with two in the heart of the town centre at Great Eastern Square – have been made possible thanks to a wider partnership between Table Tennis,



Suffolk County Council led Most Active County Partnership, East Suffolk Council and Felixstowe Town Council. The aim of the partnership is to provide additional accessible opportunities for Suffolk residents of all ages to be active in their local community.

Over the summer holidays, coaches from Xtra Time are giving free 15-minute coaching sessions at different locations every Wednesday, where individuals, families or friends can sign up to learn more about holding the bat correctly, how to serve, how to score and how to play.

For more information about the project, including the location of the tables and how to book a spot at one of the free training sessions, go to [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/leisure/parks-and-open-spaces/outdoor-table-tennis/](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/leisure/parks-and-open-spaces/outdoor-table-tennis/)

## **Work starts at former high school site**

Work has now begun on the former Deben High School site to demolish a large part of the former school buildings to accommodate a new leisure and housing development.

The original Lower School Assembly Hall will be retained as a community asset, marking and celebrating the site's former heritage. A local contractor, Clarkes Demolition Company, based in Kesgrave are undertaking the demolition and over 90% of the materials will be recycled. Once completed, the next step will see work start on the Housing Phase by the end of 2021 and the whole development is expected to be completed by 2023 (subject to work schedule info).



Find more information about the development and view the plans at [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/leisure/sport-and-leisure-development/plans-for-former-deben-high-school-site-felixstowe/](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/leisure/sport-and-leisure-development/plans-for-former-deben-high-school-site-felixstowe/)