
Coastline Lite



Produced by Suffolk Coastal to inform local Town and Parish Councils

Edition 14 – Summer 2017

Welcome to the summer edition of Coastline Lite – the publication aimed keeping Town and Parish Councils informed about developments at Suffolk Coastal and further afield.

Please feel free to share this newsletter with anyone who you feel might be interested in its content.

We recently circulated our magazine, Coastline, to all homes in the District. So we will try to not repeat ourselves too much in this 'Lite' version. If you haven't seen Coastline, click on this link: www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/assets/Your-Council/Coastline-Magazine/01-Coastline-Summer-2017.pdf

First, let us start with the Financial overview of Suffolk Coastal District Council:

Financial Year Outturn Report 2016/17: Once again, we have a very positive report on the Council's financial performance for 2016/17. The key points are:

- ✓ Through careful and effective budget management, Suffolk Coastal has delivered savings and achieved additional income, which helped to meet spending pressures and reduction in Government Grant.
- ✓ The Council increased its General Fund balance by £74k, to £4.194m, maintaining a prudent level of around 3%-5% of gross expenditure.
- ✓ The Council was able to increase its Earmarked Reserves by £8.571m (£6.676m of this was to the Business Rate Equalisation Reserve). This was due to rates income above the Governments baseline and a one-off transfer of a surplus from a prior year reduction in the appeals provision.
- ✓ The Capital Programme expenditure for 2016/17 was £4.096m, funded from external grants and contributions, capital receipts and capital reserve. The Council did not enter into any borrowing in 2016/17 to finance its capital expenditure and consequently remains debt free.

The final outturn position is subject to the audit of the Statement of Accounts. The audited Statement of Accounts will be submitted for approval to full Council in September 2017.

Events: As well as the General Election, June was a month dominated by major events for Suffolk Coastal, with Suffolk Show, the official opening of East Suffolk House and the thrilling Suffolk Armed Forces weekend, which we hosted at Felixstowe.

Suffolk Show: Hundreds of families visited our 'Get Active in Suffolk Coastal' stand in the Sports Village at Suffolk Show.

Kids of all ages got involved in the 50m cycle sprint, took part in the Wattbike competition, and decorated wooden bikes to celebrate the impending arrival of the Tour of Britain to Suffolk on Friday 8 September.

The show also gave us the opportunity to shout out about our multi-million pound Leisure Redevelopment Programme, as well as letting people meet our operators, Places for People Leisure, with their mascot 'Pooch' and find out more about our other events happening this summer, including Women On Wheels and Operation Camouflage.

One of our aims within the East Suffolk Business Plan is to increase access to quality leisure, cultural facilities and activities that support and promote healthier lifestyles. Hopefully our presence at the Suffolk Show will help people find out more about the work we are doing and encourage more people to get active in Suffolk Coastal.

Official opening of East Suffolk House: Thank you to all of you who attended the official opening of East Suffolk House. Over 100 guests were present to see the Lord-Lieutenant of Suffolk, Clare, Countess of Euston, carry out the opening duties – amid praise for the design of the new building.

At the event, we recognised that bringing this project home on time, within budget and to such a high specification was a major achievement for the council. The fact we have achieved this without creating any extra tax burden on local people and now have offices that should create significant long-term saving for the tax payer – is something we can be proud of.

Importantly, we have now got a modern, energy-efficient headquarters, which will enable us to continue to provide a high quality of service to local people. We have also proved that government buildings can be attractive, as well as being functional and providing good value for money!

For more details, see: www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/yourcouncil/headquarters-accommodation-project/

Suffolk Armed Forces Weekend 2017: The month was rounded off with the highly successful Suffolk Armed Forces Weekend 2017, which attracted thousands of people into Felixstowe for a fun-filled weekend, with a serious side.

As well as providing entertainment for all the family, the event recognised the huge contribution made by our servicemen and women, as well as marking the important 350th anniversary of the Dutch attack on Landguard Fort (which was the last time foreign forces launched an armed landing on English soil).

On Saturday, visitors including many military personnel and their families enjoyed a great day out at the seaside, which included live music, historical re-enactments, children's entertainment, an air display and fireworks. Several key seafront attractions also offered special discounts and offers for military personnel.

On Sunday, the English were victorious once again, as visitors enjoyed a spectacular re-creation of the 1667 Battle of Landguard Fort against the dastardly Dutch. Amidst the cannon fire, swords and muskets, 'Captain Darell' raised the English flag leading his men to victory.

The organising committee and volunteers, spearheaded by our staff at Felixstowe Forward, put in a tremendous amount of hard work to make this event such a big success – so our thanks must go out to them for creating this enjoyable weekend. The atmosphere in Felixstowe was fantastic and the weekend provided a great showcase for the resort.

Suffolk Armed Forces Weekend was a county event, hosted by Suffolk Coastal District Council and held in Felixstowe. It was very much a community event, supported by a variety of organisations such as the Suffolk Armed Forces Community Covenant, Royal British Legion, Felixstowe Town Council, Suffolk County Council, Landguard Fort Trust and the Royal Marines Association.

Art comes to East Suffolk House: At the opening of East Suffolk House, we announced that we want to commission art from the local community to adorn our new headquarters.

We are looking to commission a local artist to create a new and exciting public piece of art and, in return, gain some recognition for their work.

The artwork will be displayed in the reception area of East Suffolk House and the Council is looking for something which reflects Suffolk Coastal as a district, drawing on aspects of the East Suffolk Business Plan and compliments the architecture of the building.

Artists are being asked to send in their ideas along with a written statement, examples of their previous work, cv and an outline budget detailing the costs associated with their proposed ideas.

Written proposals will be assessed by the judging panel in early September, which is made up of representatives from Suffolk Coastal councillors, staff, Suffolk Coastal Norse and Flipside Festival.

Up to 5 shortlisted artists will then be invited for interview, then Suffolk Coastal staff and councillors will be able to vote for their favourite.

The winner will be announced in November. The successful artist will then have three months to create their work ahead of the official unveiling, probably in April 2018.

The deadline for online submissions is **5pm on 25 August 2017** – for more information see: www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/yourcouncil/headquarters-accommodation-project/art-commission-for-east-suffolk-house/

Appointment of new Strategic Director: Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils are delighted to confirm the appointment of Nick Khan as Strategic Director.

Following a rigorous selection process, led by councillors, Nick emerged as the outstanding candidate and will take up his position on 12 July 2017.

Nick previous role was as an Executive Director with Rochford District Council in Essex. He is a qualified private and public sector lawyer and, alongside the Managing Director, leads the authority's senior management team.

Stephen Baker, Chief Executive of Suffolk Coastal and Waveney, said: "We could not be happier to appoint a person of Nick's calibre to a critical role during a hugely important period in the history of the two councils. He has considerable, relevant experience which will complement the skills we have in place, while also strengthening our ability to deliver our ambitions for east Suffolk.

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"Nick stood out as a candidate and he is clearly excited by the opportunities that East Suffolk presents. We were very impressed, not only by his experience, but also by his enthusiasm and determination to deliver our priorities and we look forward to him taking up his post in July."

Nick has been appointed to fill a vacancy created by the departure of Arthur Charvonia to take up the role of joint Chief Executive for Babergh and Mid Suffolk councils. Complementing his broad strategic role, he will also have specific responsibility for Environmental Services and Port Health, ICT, Planning and Building Control, Coastal Partnership East and Communities.

Success of Extra Electrical Recycling Banks: New recycling banks, being trialed at two locations in Suffolk Coastal, are proving a great success.

Since mid-February 2017, special recycling banks for small WEEE (waste electronic and electrical equipment) have been in place at the community recycling points on the Market Place car park in Saxmundham, and behind the Deben swimming pool in Woodbridge.

The new facilities enable residents to deposit waste appliances such as hairdryers, kettles, toasters, electric clocks, irons, food mixers, DVD players, radios and small electrical hand tools, and are serviced by the Council's operational partner Suffolk Coastal Norse.

The new banks in Saxmundham and Woodbridge have already diverted over 2 tonnes, meaning that an estimated 1500 small domestic appliances are now destined for recycling, which might otherwise have gone to waste.

The trial facilities in Saxmundham and Woodbridge complement existing facilities at the three Household Waste Recycling Centres in the district at Felixstowe, Leiston and Foxhall, all of which also accept waste electrical and electronic items in addition to a range of other household items for recycling.

Households in the UK have an average of 25 electrical and electronic items and, currently, only 10% of them end up being recycled when they reach the end of their useful life. These items should not be placed in any of the wheeled bins that residents have at home, as they contain a mixture of materials, including metals that can be harmful if not disposed of correctly, but which are valuable if recycled properly.

The community recycling point behind the Deben Pool in Woodbridge has also recently seen its textile bank capacity upgraded.

Return of Women on Wheels: Women on Wheels returns to Rendlesham this October. This year we hope to get even more girls and women of all ages cycling in support of the Suffolk Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal!

Two rides are taking place at Army Rock Barracks, Sutton on Sunday, 1 October, offering an opportunity for all women and girls to get on their bikes to take on a challenge and have some fun.

Women on Wheels events are mass participation female only rides, raising money for local charities, that put a strong focus on the fun, friendly and inclusive aspects of cycling. They are very much aimed at non-cyclists and existing cyclists alike, with routes of an achievable distance, and are open to all ages.

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Last year, a number of WoW events took place throughout Suffolk and rides are growing with popularity linking to the arrival of the Women's Tour and Tour of Britain (which comes to Suffolk on Friday, 8 September).

The 5km starts at 11:30am for £5 and the 15km ride starts at 10:30am for £15. Under 16's are free if accompanied by an adult. Females of all ages can register for the event at: www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/leisure/sportandleisuredevelopment/women-on-wheels

Coastal Conference: Tickets are available for the Suffolk Coast Forum Conference 2017.

The event at Trinity Park, Ipswich, on Friday, 6 October, is the 6th annual community conference being staged by the Suffolk Coast Forum.

This year's conference focuses on valuing our coast. It aims to bring together the reasons why the coast is so important to our communities, our businesses, our economy, culture and heritage, as well as our environment.

The speakers and workshops will put forward the compelling case for building the future of our coast through planning, investment and management – outlining the many innovative ways in which this can and is being done here and elsewhere.

The conference is free. To book: www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/suffolk-coast-and-estuaries-community-conference-2017-tickets-26964786402

Funding for Activity Providers: Funding is available for people providing holiday activities for children in east Suffolk this year.

The funding is being provided by the East Suffolk Youth Priority Action Group (ESYPAG) through the youth holiday activities programme which aims to improve the variety of opportunities available to young people aged between school years 7 – 13 (ages 11-18 years) in east Suffolk.

The East Suffolk Partnership (ESP) has provided £50,000 in funding to support the initiative, which is being led by young people, with support from the district and county councils until 2018.

Final decisions on successful applications will be made by a panel of young people who will also benefit from the project management skills they learn from the project.

Groups can now apply for funding of up to £1,500 by completing an application form with all bids needing to present their project idea to a panel of young people for approval.

This round of funding will be used to organise projects taking place during October Half Term and Christmas 2017 and can be applied by youth organisations across east Suffolk, including schools and statutory organisations, Town and Parish Councils, Youth Clubs and Registered charities.

The closing date for applications is 5pm on **Friday 18 August 2017**. For further details either call **01502 523354** or see: www.eastsuffolkpartnership.org.uk/home/priorities/esypag

Enabling Broadband Project: The Suffolk Better Broadband Programme aims to provide superfast fibre broadband coverage across the county.

However, it is now recognised there is likely to be 2-3% of properties across Suffolk that will not have access to reasonable broadband services, when the existing programme ends in mid 2020. In rural areas, the percentage of properties without access is expected to be much higher.

At Suffolk Coastal, we believe access to high speed (>10mbps) broadband services is vital for economic growth and the development of a strong local economy, particularly in rural areas.

Delivery of many commercial and public services is increasingly dependant on internet access leading to real disadvantages to those residents and businesses without it.

The Suffolk Better Broadband Programme Project continues to work with the government to develop a policy which completes the rollout to these 'hardest to reach' communities, which are predominately in rural areas. But, as yet, there are no firm commitments or additional funding agreed.

In keeping with Suffolk Coastal's Enabling Communities ethos, we are planning to establish an Enabling Broadband Project, with a budget of £200k, to support our communities who are likely to be among the 2-3% left without access to an affordable high speed broadband service.

Threat Level – Suffolk: We are all very aware of the terrible events at the Manchester Arena recently and recognise that you may be approached for information or advice in the wake of the attack.

We have been in close contact with Suffolk Constabulary to understand any implications east Suffolk and the Eastern region.

At present, no change to local threat level has been identified.

The National Counter Terrorism Security Office has produced useful information and a short video.

'Stay Safe: Firearms and Weapons Attack' explains what to do in the unlikely event that you are caught up in a firearms or weapons attack. The film is also accompanied by an online information leaflet.

The film and leaflet advise that if you are caught up in an incident to 'run, hide and tell' - guidance which can be applied to many places and situations. The film and information can be accessed by visiting <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/stay-safe-film>

Tour of Britain comes to Suffolk Coastal: The country's top road cycling event is returning to the county – with a large part of one stage taking place in Suffolk Coastal.

Stage Six of Britain's premier road cycling race, the OVO Energy Tour of Britain, will take place entirely within Suffolk, a first for the county, on Friday, 8 September.

The 183-kilometre stage starts in Newmarket, then heads east across the county, heading east from Newmarket to the finish in the centre of Aldeburgh, on the Suffolk Coast, with the race again sponsored by Suffolk brewer, Adnams.

It will snake round the roads of Suffolk Coastal, visiting towns such as Framlingham, Woodbridge, Saxmundham, Leiston, as well as many of the villages in between, before finishing in Aldeburgh.

Among the schools welcoming the Tour along the route, is Kesgrave High School who are well known for their love of cycling, and proudly hold the record for having the more pupils cycling to school than any other in the country!

This is a major coup for the county and Suffolk Coastal, and builds on the good work of the Women's Cycling Tour in recent years. The event attracts the world's top professional cyclists and puts Suffolk Coastal in the world's eye with extensive media coverage.

Andy Jarvis, Strategic Director for Suffolk Coastal District Council, said: *"We are delighted to see cycling returning to east Suffolk and Aldeburgh this September!"*

Cycling has been very much on the agenda in the District since we hosted the stage finish of The Women's Tour in 2015 and hosting The Tour of Britain gives us a real opportunity to showcase Suffolk Coastal as a fantastic tourist destination, with the route travelling through the majority of our district.

Not only does The Tour bring great economic and tourism benefits, it importantly also reflects our ambitions to inspire more people to get involved in sport and encourage healthy living. We will be building on the success of 2014 to make this year an even bigger celebration of sport and sporting excellence."

Open-air cinema in Felixstowe: Felixstowe's newly created Beachside Events Area is to host an open-air cinema during the summer holidays.

On Saturday 29 July, a day is being dedicated to films for all the family to enjoy on the seafront – and we are looking for suggestions for which films to show!

The free, one-day event is being supported by the Felixstowe Town Council's Youth Forum which has provided £2,000 funding.

The films need to be suitable to be shown to children in the morning, young people in the afternoon and adults in the evening. All films should be PG and suitable for all ages. Film ideas should be sent to: communications@eastsoffolk.gov.uk

Work to create the multi-use Beachside Events Area was completed in September and since then has been used to host a number of local events.

Leisure Project Boost: The Deben Leisure Centre redevelopment project in Woodbridge has been given a major boost by Sport England National Lottery Funding.

Sport England National Lottery Funding awarded £500,000 from their improvement fund to support Suffolk Coastal in improving the leisure centre as part of the Council's wider commitment to improve its leisure centre offer and to encourage more people to become fit and active.

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The funding enhances Suffolk Coastal's investment of £2.5M in the project, which in total is set to cost £3M. This funding announcement follows the project gaining planning approval in February and Cabinet signing off the business case earlier this month (March).

Work on Deben Leisure Centre is planned to begin in September 2017 and will last for approximately 10 months. During this time, a full closure is required, due to the nature of the site and the work being undertaken. It's hoped that works will be completed by summer 2018.

Plans for the leisure facility, which has been designed with the Council's leisure development partner, Pulse Fitness, which is operated by Places for People Leisure, include a new gym which has been designed to be more spacious, featuring modern equipment and the pool area will feature a new health suite with a steam room, sauna and ice room.

The plans also include the addition of a new floor to be added to the front of the building, with purpose built family changing areas and separate changing facilities for use by schools and the provision of two studios, one to incorporate a spin room and the other for fitness classes, which will also be available for community hire.

Cycling on the Prom Trial: With the summer tourist season upon us, the year-long trial allowing cycling along Felixstowe's Promenade is going well.

But Suffolk Coastal has repeated our appeal for people using the Prom to take extra care, as the shared space become busier.

The trial to allow cycling on the Prom was officially launched in mid-October 2016, when the byelaw which prohibited cycling was lifted to allow cycling for a period of 12 months.

Temporary signs have been installed to promote the trial and inform both pedestrians and cyclists that the Prom is now a shared space, with cycling permitted. The signs stress the need for cyclists to be mindful of pedestrians and to dismount in crowded or narrow areas.

Since the trial was launched, Felixstowe Forward has only received three complaints and one comment to date. All of which came in within a few weeks of the launch. These related to concerns around the introduction of cycling on the Prom, the need for cyclists to dismount in congested areas and one highlighting a near miss between a pedestrian and cyclist.

The trial has been put in place, following a request from Felixstowe Town Council. This led to a public consultation, conducted by [Felixstowe Forward](#) in 2016, which showed that the majority of people would like to see cycling allowed along [Felixstowe's Promenade](#)

The trial period will continue to be monitored throughout the year and a final report will be prepared at the end of this period to determine the trial's success and give recommendations for the future. Any comments should be sent [Felixstowe Forward](#).

New Visitor Information Service: In a ground-breaking new partnership, Suffolk Coastal has joined with the Aldeburgh Cinema Trust to launch a new Visitor Information Service in Aldeburgh.

The Aldeburgh Tourist Information Centre was closed at the end of September 2016, due to reduced demand. However, at the time we gave a commitment to continuing to provide some form of a visitor information service in the town.

Now it has announced the new service will be run through Aldeburgh Cinema to provide the public with information on local events, places to visit and offer local knowledge and advice.

This will be based from a self-help service area in the foyer of the cinema which will include an interactive terminal for the public to use to access key tourist information websites, with cinema staff and volunteers on hand to provide assistance to the public.

The new service started on Saturday, 1 April 2017. The cinema is now be open longer hours during the day (from 10am-5/6pm, depending on the time of year).

Volunteer Website: There is a new and easy way to volunteer in Suffolk, thanks to a new website.

Volunteer Suffolk has been created as a one-stop shop for people to discover how they can gift their time, and for local organisations to advertise their volunteering opportunities.

The website already boasts more than 100 volunteering opportunities, added by local organisations and charities. These range from short-term and one-off roles, to temporary positions and long-term roles.

The website also provides helpful volunteering tips, latest news and volunteers' stories. Volunteer Suffolk is a product of the Suffolk Volunteering Strategy and was made possible thanks to a steering group of representatives from Suffolk's public, private and voluntary sectors. For more information visit: www.volunteersuffolk.org.uk

Get Snapping: After six successful years, the Landguard Partnership has launched its Photography Competition for 2017 - where people can win a cash prize of £50 to put towards photographic equipment, plus a framed copy of their photograph.

The Landguard Peninsula at Felixstowe is a unique, exciting and diverse location for photographic opportunities - huge container ships, wonderful wildlife, amazing objects at the Felixstowe Museum and the historic Fort.

The competition is open to UK residents only, including all amateur and professional photographers, and once again, there are three themes to choose from:

Theme 1: **Wildlife** - sea life, butterflies, birds, etc.

Theme 2: **Macro** - close up photography.

Theme 3: **Photographs at Landguard that make you go 'wow'!** - let loose your imagination.

Entrants can submit their photograph by emailing landguardenquiries@eastsoffolk.gov.uk Please include full name, age, a telephone number where the Partnership can contact you and the theme you would like to enter. Remember all photographs must have been taken on the Landguard Peninsula. Closing date for entry is 12pm on Wednesday 6 September 2017.

Full competition details, plus terms and conditions can be found at www.discoverlandguard.org.uk/landguard-photography-competition-2017-enter-now

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Follow Us on Social Media: Coastline Lite is just one of many ways we use to keep in touch with you. Suffolk Coastal now has a GovRank placement of 12 out of the 401 Local Authorities for social media.

With our colleagues at Waveney, under the 'east Suffolk' title, we share one of the highest placements in Suffolk

Social media provides an easy way for you and your council to keep in touch with the work of Suffolk Coastal, and is a great way for us to share our news with you – so please follow us on:

Twitter – tweet and follow us: @suffolkcoastal

Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/suffolkcoastal

Instagram: @eastsuffolkcouncils

LinkedIn at: www.linkedin.com/company-beta/5080912/

Or watch us on YouTube at: www.youtube.com/channel/UCuAEQUUSLjz_6qqJWt5Swg

And finally.....

Enabling Communities Budget increase: The Enabling Communities Budgets, which are given to each Suffolk Coastal councillor, has been increased to £6,500 to help them support new or current community projects for 2017/18.

Last year, 185 different projects were funded and 164 organisations were supported and there have been some fantastic examples of you working together to support local projects. It is hoped the increased allocations will enable councillors make even more impact in their communities.

If you have a project that needs extra support, please speak to your local Ward Member. If you have any general queries about how the fund can be spent, contact Wil Gibson on: **01394 444771** or email: wil.gibson@eastsuffolk.gov.uk

More information about Suffolk Coastal District Council, including all our press releases, is available on: www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk

If you have any feedback on this edition or suggestions for the content of future editions of Coastline Lite, such as possible topics/stories, please let me know by emailing me at: steve.henry@eastsuffolk.gov.uk

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