

SUFFOLK COASTAL DISTRICT COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2013

As stated in my SCC report, all local authorities have to find savings because of the decrease in government grant and the financial situation; SCDC is no exception. SCDC must save £1m this year and this will be achieved by change and innovation. Working ever closer with Waveney Council has produced savings, for the 2 councils, of £7m. There will be no increase in council tax.

A review of the **boundaries** for district council wards is underway. At present there are wide variations in the number of voters that councillors represent, the work councillors do and meetings they attend. These have reduced e.g. I am a member of one committee, The Audit Committee.. At Full Council it was agreed that the number of councillors be reduced from 55 to 43. The Boundary Commission will be conducting the review.

For the past 6 years, it seems longer, I and many others have objected to the LDF, the **Core Strategy** for Suffolk Coastal in relation to the building of 2,000 houses at Adastral Park. I have presented my arguments in letter form and spoken at public meetings and hearings. We now appear to be entering the final phase of the Core Strategy; in January public hearings, by a government planning inspector, were held. The result of the hearings, a document, Main Modifications to the Pre-Submission of SC Core Strategy, is out for consultation until 5th April. I have responded to this document and the parish council has a copy. However, SCDC has stated that there will be a review in 2015 to consider Issues and Options as there is expectation that SCDC may have to consider another 3,000 houses by 2027

All households have received a copy of SCDC's Coastline publication that gives up to date information on the council's business.

PATRICIA O'BRIEN

April 2013