

NACTON WARD'S DISTRICT COUNCILLR ANNUAL REPORT 2015

Cllr Veronica Falconer

The last year 2014/15 district Council wise has been a tidying up year with finalising, the Deben Estuary Plan, raising money for the Defence Flood Wall at Waldringfield and the coastal path in Levington, deciding on the number of Councillors and thus Wards for the future in Suffolk Coastal, should SCDC Head Office move and where to, and the new local Plan (LDF) has been finalised but still has problems.

I can hardly believe it is 12 years since I became your District Councillor – the years have flown. The Nacton Ward has 10 Parishes with 6 Parish Council Meetings per month and in some case every other month – Parish Chairman have come and gone as have some Parish Clerks and Councillors and the subjects each Parish has had to deal with over this time have varied enormously. I have had the wonderful opportunity to learn about things I would never have probably known about and these problems have opened my eyes to the grass root problems of so many constituents who love the Nacton Ward. I have had to research many subjects to give you as much information as possible. Some Parishes have needed a helping hand others cope brilliantly with the problems besetting their village. The backbone to my work has been Suffolk Coastal, the Committees I have sat on, the workshops attended, visits to Sizewell, Bentwaters, A Solar Farm in Ely along with numerous site visits re contentious Planning Applications in the Ward. Networking has been a key part of the job not only with Suffolk Coastal but with the Police, Suffolk County Council and many many constituents.

AS a reminder some of the events and highlights in the last 12 years that have occupied a great deal of my time both in the ten Parishes as well as at Suffolk Coastal have been:

Pubs Opening and Closing – The Shannon in Bucklesham and The Ship in Levington

The three Murders at Levington/Nacton

Caravan Sites, Bus Routes and Timetables, Loss of Nacton Post Office, Sizewell C, Log Cabins

Biomass Boilers, Wind Turbines in Bucklesham (3), Purdis Farm (2), Solar Panel Farms at Newbourne and Levington, Telephone Masts – scattered throughout the Ward

Recycling, Wheelie Bins, Composting and Waste Disposal, Affordable Housing, Doggie Bins, Food Hygiene,

The Pontoon at Waldringfield, Beach and Village Litter Picks, Waldringfield Quarry

Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change, Council Tax changes, Partnership working, The Local Development Framework (LDF) – which has dominated the last eight years, BT Application – still undetermined. The Deben Estuary Partnership and Boundary changes,

Reduction in District Councillors from 55 down to 42 at the election next month. SCDC accommodation move to Melton and the sale of Melton Offices

Tidal Surge in December 2013 affecting both Waldringfield and Levington

Public Rights of Way (PROW), Alcohol Licencing, Taxi Licencing, Numerous Planning applications, Amberfield and recently the Hollies

Car Parking fares, introduction of Philis IT, Tourism, Community Enabling Fund, Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL),

Levington winning the Calor Village of the Year competition, being Vice Chair and Chairman of Suffolk Coastal covering two years, Chairing the Quality Place Awards

The list goes on!!!

Stepping down is going to leave a huge void in my life as all the villages over the last twelve years have been my back bone with all their ups and downs. My sincere thanks go the Chairman and Parish Clerks for all the wonderful work that they have achieved. Thank you for letting me share and input to the best of my ability.

Cllr. Veronica Falconer

Nacton Ward - 2015