

## Annual Report for Kirton Ward April 2019

This is just a snapshot of what has happened in the last 12 months.

May.

There was a simultaneous Council Meeting attended by 90 Councillors. Suggestions on re-warding of the area were presented to the Boundary Commission including Waldringfield being joined to Martlesham Ward.

Brown Bins, well actually they are Green, were introduced and 37% of people had signed up.

The Adastral Park 106 Agreement was signed off meaning that Outline Planning Permission for a £300 million development would go ahead and would be known as Brightwell Lakes.

June.

Green bins subscribers were up to 46%. SCDC elected its last Chairman, Nicky Yeo. She challenged us to spend our Community Enabling Budgets on all ages in our communities.

July

52% Green bin subscribers. Deben Leisure in Woodbridge re-opened to the public after refurbishment. Boundary Commission consultation and the Local Plan Consultations were both out for comment. Waldringfield Parish Council and I worked hard at getting Waldringfield back in the rural villages and out of Martlesham where it had been suggested. We won our fight.

August

Suffolk successfully applied to be part of a pilot scheme whereby it kept £10.4 million worth of business rates from local businesses which normally goes to Central Govt. This would be used to invest in projects that boost economic growth and support communities in Suffolk.

September

56% Green Bin Subscribers. It became apparent that by 2030s at least 25% of the country's electricity would be coming in through a small part of the Suffolk Coast. Sizewell C and Scottish Power with their converter/connector stations would dominate our coast. Rats decided to have a holiday in Felixstowe much to the considerable annoyance of the local people understandably.

October

57% Green bin take up. Responses to the Local Plan were being examined. By far the most contentious site was Innocence Farm as a storage and lorry facility all 116 hectares of it. Local concerns were the moving of Trimley St Martin primary school to a new site the other side of the A14 in Trimley St Martin, this being the school that Kirton and Falkenham children presently attend.

Pressure was put on EDF to move their proposed substations away from Friston.

November

Surprise surprise SCDC had 500 free brown bins to give away! The state of the AONB report was being produced and a survey was launched. Suffolk Coasts and Heaths AONB follows 60km of some of the least developed coastline in southern England from Shotley peninsula to Kessingland. The area covers 403 square km containing distinctive wildlife,

rich wetlands in the 5 estuaries and at Minsmere. Ancient heaths at Dunwich, Scenic coastlines, historic towns and villages and extensive farmlands and mixed forest.

#### November

Our area was still under threat from Gladmans wanting to build 2600 houses in Bucklesham/Purdis area. The Innocence farm site was reduced in response to comments received during the Local Plan consultation.

#### January

On the 3rd of January the Local plan went before the full Council. I voted against this for several reasons, the proposed Innocence Farm impact on our area and in my opinion we do not need the housing numbers inflicted on us by government.

Sizewell C consultation began until 29th March. Now it is estimated that 35% of the country's electricity will come in at Sizewell and nearby if consented. Scottish Power still want massive buildings in Friston, government having taken no notice of local submissions. The main reason being given is that there is a national grid connection available in the area. I attended the launch of the AONB management Plan in December. It is the duty of every elected Parish, District and County Councillor to conserve and enhance the AONB.

#### February

I chaired a large meeting at University Suffolk for the Coasts and Heaths AONB. This covered the use of colour in the landscape with regard to new buildings in the AONB, tranquility and landscape character assessment and evaluation.

#### March

This was the month when I finished spending my Community Enabling Budget which I always enjoy. Static speed cameras, defibrillators, donations to Waldringfield and Trimley St Martin Schools for outdoor equipment, a microwave and solar lighting and Swift boxes. I am also putting on a Celebrate Suffolk event on Kirton Recreation ground on 22nd June to which everyone is invited. I welcome all suggestions as to what can be contributed to make this day special.

The Local Plan went off to the planning inspectorate on 29th March. The public hearing will be during the summer with a result expected later in the year.

#### April

East Suffolk Council now exists.

I will finish by saying I have really enjoyed working with all the different villages and will miss this when I stand down at the May elections. I thank you for your support.

