

Hello!



Please allow me to introduce myself!

I'm Mick Richardson, and in the August of 2021, I was elected as a District Councillor to East Suffolk Council and I am one of two District Councillors who cover 8 parish councils including Waldringfield.

In the short period of time since that election, I have had the pleasure of being able to work across the ward with elected representatives at all 8 parish councils and have had the opportunity to attend most if not all PC meetings in Waldringfield which has then allowed me to support and represent you through the parish council. We seem to get on rather well – which is absolutely fantastic.

I was delighted to have been able to contribute £2000 towards new play equipment which is to be installed in the park across the road from the school and I look forward to the younger people being able to make good use of it all.

Prior to my election to ESC, I was elected in 2019 to Felixstowe Town Council (my first foray into local politics). Before that though

I retired as a Sgt from Suffolk Constabulary in 2016 after 30 years' service, and just prior to my retirement, I set up a company (Time Flize Ltd) to provide commercial drone services. Time Flize Ltd remains 'airborne' today, but I have found myself being attracted back to doing something community based – hence standing for election.

To be honest, whilst working from Woodbridge police station there was very little call for police attendance to the village – it's such a great place to live!

On a personal level, I live in Trimley St Mary with my wife and between us we have 6 children and (so far) 3 grandchildren. Sadly, four of our six have had to move away from the area due to a lack of suitable housing.

My interests include (apart from flying drones at a commercial level) the environment and our reduction on reliance of fossil fuels – and gardening. Actually, I recently took on a seasonal full-time job in a garden centre and managed to qualify with City & Guild in horticulture so as to be able to help customers who might need a little advice and guidance when working within their own gardens. I'm forever 'tinkering' in my own garden to try and encourage a wider variety of wildlife to come and visit or even make it their home. Time will tell on that front.

One of the biggest issues we all face is that of 'development'. In this area in particular it's "Brightwell Lakes" – a proposed 2000 homes to be built behind BT stretching in effect from the A12 to opposite the golf club. That's a huge piece of land.

Recently, I wrote to our MP to decry the lack of power afforded to District Councils to enforce environmentally friendly building standards – and I was both surprised and pleased to get a response from different Gov Ministers who were able to say that primary legislation was being progressed to ensure that ‘new builds’ in the not too distant future would indeed require builders / developers to build to a standard to greatly reduce the impact of new homes on the environment.

At the same time, Waldringfield Parish Council extended a link to me to be able to join in discussions with developers responsible for the proposed build at Brightwell Lakes. I was pleased to hear them say in those discussions that they plan to build to a higher standard than required today to minimise the environmental impact of the homes they want to create – at least that goes some way to help.

With regards to your own parish council, I would encourage you to join in the discussions and even be a part of the council as and when an opportunity arises. Most parish councils seem to have vacancies that need to be filled. Go on! You know you want to!

Drop a line to your Clerk Jennifer Shone-Tribley pc.waldringfield@googlemail.com

Telephone (with answerphone): 01473 736475

I cannot express loudly enough the importance of every parish council in representing the view of the local community to other levels of local government – as well as acting for the community in general in a way that helps conserve and promote the parish in equal measures.



Councillor Mick Richardson | Orwell & Villages Ward

East Suffolk Council

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Our ambition is to deliver the best possible quality of life for everyone who lives in, works in and visits East Suffolk.

We are East Suffolk