

AUGUST 2023 PARISH REPORT

ORWELL & VILLAGES WARD

We had a very interesting briefing from senior ESC officers regarding the future plans for the Seven Hills Roundabout in response to the large number of planning applications which will have implications for traffic volumes on the roundabout and on both the A14 and A12. It seems very likely that at least one further lane may be introduced together with traffic lights at some points.

We also had a Team meeting with the developers of the Reeve Lodge proposed development and toured various sites in Trimley St Mary and Trimley St Martin with the Leader and Chief Executive of ESC, parish council reps and ESPA.

Cllr Reeves attended a planning refusal appeal hearing by the Government inspector in relation to a site in Levington together with representatives of the local parish council.

We also attended several committee meetings relating to our individual responsibilities and dealt with several requests for assistance by residents.

If parish councillors need to contact either of us, please feel free to do so.

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Meetings with Forestry Commission and Anglian Water

The GLI Group recently met with both the Forestry Commission and Anglian Water to explore ways of protecting the outstanding natural environment of East Suffolk. East Suffolk Council and GLI Group Leader Cllr Caroline Topping is pleased that they were able to discuss important issues with both organisations. She said: "We are determined to develop and maintain a constructive dialogue with key environmental stakeholders and these two recent meetings really got the ball rolling.

"The presentation from the Forestry Commission was incredibly engaging and I am keen that we really do spread the word about the importance of tree planting and the range of grants that are available to do so."

Meanwhile the meeting with Anglian Water was also very useful although I was disappointed by representatives' suggestion that sewage discharge into rivers was a low priority issue for the public. It was also interesting to that they are not statutory consultees with regards to planning applications which is a concern when it comes to the issue of ensuring appropriate supply to new developments.

These meetings mark our commitment to deliver on our campaign promises and prioritise residents, communities, and the environment in everything that we do. The GLI Councillors are enthusiastic about improving quality of life across the district, and this is just the beginning - so watch this space!"

New policing model: PCC and Chief answer your questions

The way local policing is delivered in Suffolk is changing and a new county policing model goes live in December 2023.

In advance of the changes, the Police and Crime Commissioner Tim Passmore and Chief Constable Rachel Kearton are hosting a series of meetings to talk through the plans with local communities and answer any questions they may have.

Meetings will be held across the county through September and October with an on-line meeting in November.

These are:

WEST AREA: Thursday September 21 2023 at Bury Town Football Club, Cotton Lane, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1XP

SOUTH AREA: Wednesday October 4 2023 at Police Headquarters, Portal Avenue, Martlesham IP5 3QS

EAST AREA: Tuesday October 10 2023 at Wherry Hotel, Bridge Road, Oulton Broad, Lowestoft NR32 3LN

MID SUFFOLK: Tuesday October 17 2023 at the new Stowmarket Police Station, IP14 2QU

All meetings start at 6.30pm and there is no need to book, just turn up on the evening.

There is also an on-line meeting on Tuesday November 7 2023 at 6pm via Microsoft Teams. Please email spcc@suffolk.police.uk to register and an invite will be sent through via email in advance of the meeting.

Time to think about how we heat our homes

Warm Homes Suffolk is accepting applications to fund improvements to residents' homes, making properties warmer and more efficient for the colder months. Warm Homes Suffolk has new funding available for eligible households, to put towards energy efficient measures such as insulation, solar panels or heat pumps.

The scheme is administered by Suffolk County Council, and delivered by East Suffolk Council, on behalf of all councils in Suffolk. It has been funding home energy efficiency improvements for more than a year but has recently received further funding from the Department for Energy, Security and Net Zero to continue the work.

An average of £18,000 in funding per property is available for homeowners meeting the criteria. Landlords and tenants are also entitled to apply, with qualifying rental properties getting up to two-thirds of costs, as an average grant of up to £12,000.

To find out more about how Warm Homes Suffolk, visit [Warm Homes Suffolk](#) or call the team on 03456 037 686.