

PARISH REPORT JULY 2024

ORWELL & VILLAGES

Following the calling of the General Election in late May and the introduction of the purdah period the number of council meetings reduced substantially but following the change in Government on 5th July we have had a very busy period.

There were several announcements in the King's speech which will have an effect on councils in particular the proposed changes to planning, making it harder for local communities to object to additional housing and the re-introduction of firm housing targets. We wait to see the details of the legislation.

North Felixstowe Garden Neighbourhood -now rebranded Grove Garden Neighbourhood

There will be a drop-in public session to be held at the Brackenbury Sports Centre, High Road East, Felixstowe on Tuesday 13th August between 3pm and 8pm for people to talk to councillors and senior officers as part of the on-going consultation on this project.

Closure of Candlet Road

A full closure of Candlet Road has now been scheduled between Monday 9th September and Monday 11th November 2024. This is to allow the completion of the roundabout between the Bloor Homes development in Walton and Candlet Road. Diversions will be via the Dock Spur Road or through the Trimley villages.

East Suffolk Council – HERE For You!

This summer, we're visiting towns around the district to chat to local people about our services and how they feel about what we do. We're HERE for you!

Councillors and senior officers will be present to listen to local people and chat about our plans, our services and how we are looking to improve lives and outcomes not only in the towns we visit but throughout East Suffolk.

GLI Cllr Caroline Topping, Leader of East Suffolk Council said:

"We are a transparent, communicating council and the best way to listen to our communities is to come and say hi!

"I think it is incredibly important that residents have an opportunity to ask us questions and to chat with councillors and service providers. It means we can learn from each other, and I think that can only be a good thing.

"After September, the roadshows will then begin again next year, visiting different towns around the district."

Wednesday 7 August: Church Square, Leiston

Wednesday 28 August: The Triangle, Felixstowe

Wednesday 18 September: The Thoroughfare, Woodbridge

All events are from 10am until 1pm.

Free holiday activities and food this summer

Filmmaking, theatre, cooking, sport, mindfulness, STEM and outdoor adventure are just some of the free activities on offer during the school holidays across East Suffolk this summer.

Numerous organisations across the district are providing fun and enriching activities and food as part of a programme of experiences for children and young people over the coming weeks. There are 46 programmes on offer with over 7,700 places available.

The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme has been funded by the UK Government for three years providing over £200m per year for enriching activities for children and young people, particularly those in receipt of free school meals. The HAF programme is overseen by Suffolk County Council and coordinated locally by East Suffolk Council.

Holiday activities are varied and can introduce young people to new experiences and skills, from dance and drama to cooking and filmmaking, as well providing opportunities for physical and social activity.

In Suffolk, the programme is targeted at those eligible for benefits-related free school meals, and other vulnerable children, or those with additional needs who would benefit from accessing the programme.

Each funded holiday activity also offers a free meal, and places are redeemed by eligible families through the booking system Eequ. Families can select the programmes and dates they wish to attend, and which young people will be attending. The booking system will ask about HAF eligibility, and the booking will be reviewed and approved by the HAF team at Suffolk County Council.

East Suffolk Council's Customer Services team is available to support anyone needing help completing the online booking form. The team can be called on 03330 162000.

Book a place now at: eequ.org/suffolkhaf

Ease the Squeeze on Cost of Living

Are you, or someone you know, worried about the increasing cost of living? We understand the pressures faced by many people today and we are working closely with key partners to ensure support is available to help ease the squeeze for households in East Suffolk.

To make it as easy as possible for you to access the services and support available, locally and nationally, we have gathered information about them in one place:

www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/community/squeeze/

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

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