

...YOUR FREE LOCAL NEWS

FEBRUARY 2022

# TIDE COLLECTION

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## GRANT FUNDING NOW AVAILABLE

**An annual grants scheme that sees over £110,000 given to community projects across Essex and Suffolk has opened for applications.**

**Communities are invited to apply for grants that are available across two Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) six different grant funds in total - in the Coast & Heaths AONB and the Dedham Vale AONB & Stour Valley.**

The AONBs are seeking applications from community projects that represent the widest range of society possible and supports equality of opportunities to access the funds.

The AONB grants wish to support projects that show innovation, social inclusion, sustainability, public benefit and partnership working. Individuals as well as organisations such as schools, businesses and community groups are all welcome to apply for funding.

The AONB grants are open to a wide range of applications that benefit the area, its communities, environment, economy, and access. Previous examples of projects funded include art workshops for people with mental illness, new fencing and gates for nature and wildlife reserves, rural training for young people, as well as visitor information at well-known landmarks in the area.

Whether you have a project that covers topics such as wildlife conservation, access and diversity, climate change, health and wellbeing, learning, and heritage to give you a few examples, the AONBs welcome your applications.

For more information about the various grants that are available and the criteria and funding guidelines, please visit [www.suffolkcoastandheaths.org](http://www.suffolkcoastandheaths.org) or [www.dedhamvalestourvalley.org](http://www.dedhamvalestourvalley.org) or contact Oka Last, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Grants Officer, on 01394 445225 or [AONBgrants@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:AONBgrants@suffolk.gov.uk).



The AONBs work in partnership to provide grants to communities.

Partners are:

Gallopier Wind Farm Ltd (operated by RWE Renewables on behalf of the project partners) funding £11,000/year to the Gallopier Wind Farm Fund

EDF funding £20,000/year to the Amenity and Accessibility Fund

Suffolk County Council

East Suffolk Council

Leiston Town Council

Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) are some of the UK's most outstanding landscapes. There are 38 AONBs in England and Wales, and a further eight in Northern Ireland.

The Coast and Heaths and Dedham Vale AONBs are two protected landscapes and make up part of the 46 strong family of AONBs nationwide



**Dedham Vale. Photo: Gregg Brown**



**Coasts & Heaths. Photo: Gill Moon**

# PROJECT TO RESTORE & ENHANCE HISTORIC COASTAL CHURCH AWARDED NATIONAL LOTTERY HERITAGE FUND GRANT



A project to carry out essential urgent repairs on the Grade 1 listed St. Edmund's Church, Kessingland can now go ahead following the award of a crucial £168,000 from the National Lottery Heritage Fund. This follows an application made with the support of the local community, including Waveney M.P. Peter Aldous, Kessingland Parish Council, the village C of E Primary Academy and a diversity of village businesses and community voluntary groups.

The church has a fine flint flushwork tower, which has been a landmark for seafarers since it was built in the mid fifteenth century and has many mementoes of the fishing heritage of the village. However, the seventeenth century thatched roof is in a dilapidated state and with additional water damage to the buttresses the church was officially declared 'at risk' and in danger of closure. The project is expected to cost around £220,000 in total, with over £37,000 of this amount already having been raised by local residents and supporters. It includes the creation of a new heritage area in the church and new guides of the church and village, with the involvement of the C of E Primary Academy. This project will enhance the attractiveness of the church and village to visitors to this small holiday resort. In addition, the churchyard will be made more wildlife-friendly and extra church-centred social activities will be developed for the village community.

## A Response from the Rector of Kessingland Benefice.

*"We are delighted to receive this funding. It validates the huge local support and effort that has gone into securing the long-*

*term future of this vital building for our community. St Edmund, Kessingland Parish Church seeks to serve its community from Cradle to Grave and has in the past two years seen substantial growth in numbers and people wanting to assist us serve our community. Besides providing services of worship, St Edmund's Church regularly stages community outreach events and supports local groups who use the Church Centre.*

*"Now, thanks to all National Lottery Players, and all donors and fundraisers the project will restore St Edmund's roof so that it can continue to serve its community through the twenty first century. We give our heartfelt thanks to the National Lottery Players everywhere and our wonderful community who have made this possible*

THANKYOU. TOGETHER WE DID IT!"

**Website:** [kessinglandbenefice.uk](https://www.kessinglandbenefice.uk) <https://www.kessinglandbenefice.uk/home-benefice>

**Facebook:** [Kessingland Benefice](https://www.facebook.com/groups/639319923637673/) <https://www.facebook.com/groups/639319923637673/>

**For any further information, please contact the "Raise The Roof" Team via Helena Lord, Church Warden. [helena.lord@sky.com](mailto:helena.lord@sky.com)**



**Kessingland Benefice.**



Gisleham: Kessingland: Rushmere

**Serving our Communities  
in Love and Faith**





# SUFFOLK COASTAL<sup>TM</sup>



**Kings Road, Leiston,  
IP16 4DA**

**Guide price: £195,000**



**Kiln Lane, Benhall,  
IP17 1HA**

**Guide price £475,000**



**Bittern Road, Saxmundham,  
IP17 1WT**

**Guide price £185,000**



**Church Hill, Sternfield,  
IP17 1RS**

**Guide price £365,000**



**Mill Road, Knodishall,  
IP17 1YS**

**Guide price: £350,000**



**Station Road, Leiston,  
IP16 4GW**

**Guide price: £150,000**



**Redwald Road, Rendlesham,  
IP12 2TA**

**Guide price: £225,000**



**The Common, Knodishall,  
IP17 1UZ**

**Guide price: £285,000**



**Linden Road, Aldeburgh,  
IP15 5JJ**

**Guide price: £315,000**



**01728 677980**



**tim@suffolkcoastal.com**

The Suffolk coast estate agent

# THINKING OF SELLING?

**We have cash buyers  
wanting to buy now  
in Leiston**



*Estate agency is not complicated but it is about doing lots of little things incredibly well, and it's this that differentiates us from our competitors*

Call Tim Day of Suffolk Coastal, in confidence, to arrange a valuation.

**Independent estate agent providing a bespoke estate agency service:**

- One point of contact
- Outstanding photography
- Attention to detail
- Viewings 7 days a week
- Achieving record selling prices

# FUNDING TO SUPPORT INVALUABLE COMMUNITY BUILDING

A village hall which offers a huge range of community activities has received funding towards a new roof, thanks to the Woodbridge, Melton and Deben Peninsula Community Partnership.

Following a successful application for funding from the Community Partnership's Small Grants scheme, Hollesley Village Hall Committee has been awarded £10,000 towards replacing the roof, which was recommended following a building survey in 2019.

Hollesley Village Hall is used widely by local residents and those from surrounding villages for social clubs, functions and activities including tai chi, karate, pilates, yoga, drama, whist and a youth cub, as well as providing a base for medical appointments.

Cllr James Mallinder, East Suffolk Council's cabinet member for the Environment, Deben ward councillor and Acting Chair of the Community Partnership said: "One of the Community Partnership's top priorities is the creation of 'village hubs' and Hollesley Village Hall is an invaluable local asset, already used for a host of community activities attended by an estimated 1,000 people each month. Many of these activities provide opportunities for meeting others and reducing loneliness, which is essential for wellbeing. The new roof will enable the hall to continue to be used by local residents for years to come."

Gerry Bathe, Chair of Trustees of Hollesley Village Hall Committee, thanked the council for supporting the Raise the Roof Project to replace the roof and install photovoltaic panels. She said: "The roof tiles are made from asbestos and fibre, and are over 50 years old. Sadly, Covid-19 and the

lockdown prevented many fundraising activities from taking place, so this grant has enabled us to begin the work.

"We are also very pleased to be working in partnership with HMP Hollesley Bay. The contractor has a training arm and prisoners are able to work to obtain roof installation qualifications to enable them to secure a job on their release."

A cheque presentation was held on Wednesday 19 January, attended by Cllr Mallinder and representatives from the Village Hall Committee.

The need for repairs was discovered during a survey of the roof and estimated to cost £60,000. Work is already under way and the Village Hall Committee hopes that the building will be back in use from the beginning of February.

Find out more about your local Community Partnership:  
[www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/community-partnerships](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/community-partnerships)



## Gather & Grow

A weekly group for little ones (under 5) and their grown-ups

**Market Hall, Saxmundham**  
**Wednesdays**  
**9:30-11am**

Providing a safe place for young children & their Parents, Grandparents or Carers to meet, socialise, play & have fun.

Adults must stay & be responsible for those in their care. There is no charge for attending but booking is essential. Text 07592042079 or email [contact@ip17gns.com](mailto:contact@ip17gns.com)

**IP17GNS.com**  
HERE TO HELP... STAY SAFE

**SUFFOLK LIBRARIES**

### Leiston Library Opening Hours

Monday	Closed
Tuesday	9.30am to 7.30pm
Wednesday	Closed
Thursday	9.30am to 5.30pm
Friday	9.30 to 1.00 & 2.00 to 5.00pm
Saturday	9.30 to 1.00 & 2.00 to 5.00pm
Sunday	10.00am to 3.00pm

Leiston Library will return to these opening hours from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> July.

Please note:  
Numbers of people entering the library will still be restricted, Test & Trace is still required and you must wear a facemask.  
Please be considerate of staff and other customers while these restrictions are still in place so that we can continue to keep everyone as safe as possible.

[leiston.library@suffolklibraries.co.uk](mailto:leiston.library@suffolklibraries.co.uk) Tel 01728 831252

**SUFFOLK LIBRARIES**

### Alde Valley Suffolk Family History Group

First Tuesday of the month 2-4pm  
Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February  
Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March

Help & practical guidance from experienced members of the Alde Valley Suffolk Family History Group to research your family history.  
Free drop in.

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**Art for Fun Art Group for Adults**

Last Friday of the month 10.30-12.00  
Friday 28<sup>th</sup> January  
Friday 25<sup>th</sup> February  
Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March

No skill required - just using art materials for enjoyment and wellbeing.  
£1.50 - just drop in

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**Leiston Library**  
01728 831252  
[leiston.library@suffolklibraries.co.uk](mailto:leiston.library@suffolklibraries.co.uk)

### Scrabble Club for adults

First Thursday of the month 2-3.30pm  
Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> February  
Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March

Come along for a game of Scrabble....  
Free drop in.

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**Merry Makers Craft Group for Adults**

Second Saturday of the month 10.30-12.00  
Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> February  
Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March

Bring your own handicraft in and get making with other crafty people!  
We'll make you a cuppa!



## Beginner's Line Dancing



Saxmundham  
Market Hall

Monday evenings  
7:30-9 pm

Line dancing will continue each  
Monday evening (except Bank Holidays  
and the 2nd Monday of each month)

Call 07835 064509 to book a place or further details.

No need to pre-book, we adhere to social distancing regulations,  
We take a register to ensure we can Track And Trace.



## Sax Community Fridge

Opening Times

Saxmundham Community  
Fridge is a way of  
redistributing good food  
to **ALL** members of the  
IP17GNS community.

Monday: 11am - 1pm  
Thursday: 11am - 1pm  
Friday: 11am - 1pm

A simple solution to  
wasting less through the  
sharing of food that  
would otherwise be  
binned.

Community fridges  
promote a spirit of  
sharing to strengthen  
community bonds,  
alongside helping to  
reduce food poverty in  
these challenging times.



The Town House,  
Station Approach,  
Saxmundham,  
IP17 1BW



**SAX**  
COMMUNITY  
FRIDGE



For more information or to contact us  
please use:  
0333 335 5266 or [Find us on Facebook](#)

## GRANT FUNDING STILL AVAILABLE

### LOCAL BUSINESS NEWS

Hospitality, leisure and accommodation businesses impacted by the Omicron variant of Covid-19 have until February 21 to apply for one-off grants of up to £6,000.

The Omicron Hospitality and Leisure Grant scheme is designed to support businesses offering in-person services, where the main service and activity takes place in a fixed rate-paying premises, in the hospitality, leisure and accommodation sectors. Funding has been made available in recognition of the likelihood that some businesses have struggled due to the rise of the Omicron variant of Covid-19.

East Suffolk Council and local authorities across the country have been given responsibility of delivering the one-off lump sum funding to eligible businesses.

Cllr Craig Rivett, Cabinet Member for Economic Development, said: "This funding offers another potential lifeline for many local businesses affected by the rise in the Omicron variant. I would encourage anyone whose business is eligible, and who hasn't already done so, to apply for the funding they need."

Businesses will need to submit an application for the grant and will need an eligible Business Rates account number to apply. Details of eligibility and the application form can be found on our website. Find out more by visiting our [Covid-19 business grants support page](#).

All enquiries regarding this scheme should be directed to our dedicated team [covid19businessgrants@eastsoffolk.gov.uk](mailto:covid19businessgrants@eastsoffolk.gov.uk)

For those businesses not eligible for this scheme, there will be an Additional Restriction Grant (ARG) scheme published soon, to target help to other specific areas of need across the district.

Details of the scheme will also be published on our website as soon as it is available.

The grants are part of a £1billion fund announced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer on 21 December as part of a government support package, which also included the reintroduction of the Statutory Sick Pay Rebate Scheme and additional funding through the Culture Recovery Fund.

## SAVE THE DATE FOR THE EAST SUFFOLK DIGITAL BUSINESS FESTIVAL

East Suffolk's annual business festival returns next month, with an online programme of events and seminars designed to support local businesses.

The East Suffolk Digital Business Festival begins on Monday 7 February and runs for two weeks until Friday 18 February 2022.

The festival will feature a range of easily accessible, 'bite sized' events which will provide an opportunity for local businesses to learn something new, find out what's happening in their area and learn where they can access local support programmes.

This year, the theme for the business festival is 'all things digital' and it will include the launch of new digital business support programmes, digital

tech demos, business support and advice, information on local digital projects and a wide range of workshops, webinars and learning seminars.

All events will be held online which means local businesses can access the support and information they need more conveniently and can just 'pop in' during their working day.

Recorded events, podcasts and pre-recorded webinars will be made available throughout the two-week period at [eastsuffolkmeansbusiness.co.uk](http://eastsuffolkmeansbusiness.co.uk).

East Suffolk Council's Economic Development Team are working with key local partners including MENTA, NWES, Screen Suffolk, New Anglia Growth Hub, Suffolk Chamber of Commerce, Innovation Martlesham and many more

to provide a full and comprehensive events schedule.

Councillor Craig Rivett, cabinet member for Economic Development and Deputy Leader of the Council, said: "We are excited to announce the East Suffolk Digital Business Festival in which we will be launching our new digital support programme, soft launching new digital products which the Council is investing in, including digital trails, free-to-use town Wi-Fi, Click It Local and many more. There will also be plenty of business training and support events delivered by our local partners."

Businesses can pre-register now – a full programme of events is available at [eastsuffolkmeansbusiness.co.uk/east-suffolk-digital-business-festival](http://eastsuffolkmeansbusiness.co.uk/east-suffolk-digital-business-festival)

## MILLIONS OF POUNDS OF INVESTMENT APPROVED

EAST SUFFOLK  
COUNCIL

Over £49million is to be invested in assets, services and infrastructure across East Suffolk over the coming financial year.



As part of its budget setting process, East Suffolk Council has agreed a programme of capital expenditure, including a General Fund Capital Programme and Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Capital Programme for new development and investment in existing housing stock, worth just over £339m for the next four years.

The programme, which was approved at Full Council on Wednesday, January 26, outlines investment in line with the council's key priorities, and for the benefit of local communities and businesses.

It aims to maximise resources by actively seeking external funding and making efficient use of existing council assets.

Cllr Maurice Cook, East Suffolk's cabinet

member for Resources said: "I am very pleased to be able to present such a comprehensive capital programme, investing in all areas of our district.

"The council tax payer is at the heart of all financial decisions, and so many of the projects not only provide new or improved facilities, but also develop more assets and income streams for the council in order that the reliance on council tax for providing vital services can be minimised."

Within the programme, over £118m has been allocated for planning and coastal management projects over the next four years, with a further £36.86m for economic development and regeneration schemes.

Some of the major projects to receive investment within this period include:

- £96m for permanent flood defences to protect homes and businesses in Lowestoft
- £50m for the Felixstowe North Garden Neighbourhood Regeneration

Project, including a total of £44m to provide a new leisure centre and

associated infrastructure

- £14.2m for the enhancement of Southwold Harbour and Caravan Park (subject to external funding)
- £6.4m on creating start up units for local businesses in Lowestoft
- £5.75m for the development of the South Seafront area and Martello Café, in Felixstowe
- £3.3m for Thorpeness flood defences (subject to external funding)
- £0.69m for Thorpeness emergency flood defence works

Projects already allocated funding from this year's budget include the replacement of beach huts in Lowestoft (£1m), the purchase of land to extend cemetery provision across the district (£395,000) and the development of sports hubs in Felixstowe (£197,000).



# WELCOME TO OUR FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

## Our aim at keeping all residents informed of the current key issues and achievements of East Suffolk Council

This month we are updating you on the Community Partnerships. What is community Partnership? Eight Community Partnerships covering the whole of East Suffolk to do place-based partnership work with a programme of activity to address the data-led priorities identified at individual CP level in late 2019.

## Aldeburgh, Leiston, Saxmundham and villages Community Partnership

### Action Notes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 15 December via Zoom

#### Core Membership:

**ESC Councillors:** Councillor Tony Cooper (Chairman), Councillor John Fisher, Councillor Russ Rainger

**SCC Councillors:** Councillor T-J Haworth-Culf

**Town and Parish Councils:** Roz Barnett (Saxmundham Town Council), Councillor Julian Cusack (Middleton Parish Council), Sharon Cuthbert (Leiston Good Neighbour Scheme), Councillor Lesley Hill (Leiston Town Council), Councillor Paul Richards (Snape Parish Council), Caroline Rinder (Leiston Town Council)

**Partnership Organisations:** Di Eastman (IP17 Good Neighbour Scheme), Melissa Geater (Vice Chair, Avocet Academy), Sarah Mortimer (Community Action Suffolk)

**Others present:** Zoe Botten (Communities Officer), Helen Greengrass, Fiona McMillan (Youth Sport Trust), Nicole Rickard (Head of Communities), Julie Stokes (ActivLives), Alli Stone (Democratic Services Officer)

#### Welcome and Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Tom Daly (East Suffolk Council), and Councillor Mary Schedrin (Friston Parish Council),

#### Notes of the Meetings of the Community Partnership

The unconfirmed action notes of the meetings held on 29 September 2021 were agreed. Alli Stone (AS) confirmed that the cycling and walking strategy consultation would close on 10th January and encourage members to submit their own feedback and share the strategy with their groups.

#### Update from the Community Partnership Board held on 6 December 2021

The Community Partnership received an update on the last meeting of the Community Partnership Board from Nicole Rickard (NR). NR provided an overview of the following points discussed at that meeting: A presentation from Suffolk MIND on the impact of Covid-19 on mental health locally; A new mental health and wellbeing task and finish group to address the ongoing issues around mental health and Covid-19; Board priorities reviewed to include social isolation and loneliness; sustainable transport and travel; and mental health and wellbeing; A new workstream on vulnerability and hidden needs due to emerging issues on cost of living and living standards; The Peer Review of Community Partnerships; The Community Partnership forum event was planned for 25 March 2022 at Trinity Park.

#### Applications for funding

##### Leiston Primary School Early

**Minds Project:** Melissa Geater (MG) summarised the project proposal from Leiston Primary School. The project aims to support pupils through the continuing impact of the pandemic, with training and support from Suffolk MIND. The project would provide: Lessons for whole classes to discuss mental health; Workshop and Q&A session for staff; Resources for years three to six; Parent Q&A session (either virtually or in person); Follow up reports six weeks, eight weeks and six months later to determine the impact of the work. Project costs were confirmed as £2,007. The Partnership discussed the project and raised the

following points: Sharing project outcomes and good practice with other schools in the area; Reports being shared with the CP Board mental health task and finish group; The projects compatibility with the Partnerships aims; Engagement with parents and home-schooled children. On the proposition of Cllr Lesley Hill, seconded by Di Eastman it was unanimously agreed to fund the project. ACTION - £2,007 be allocated to the Leiston Primary School Early Minds Project.

#### ActivLives - ActivCommunities

Julie Stokes (JS) introduced the proposal which was to employ an ActivLives 'Activator' post, who would work to engage people aged 50 to: help reduce social isolation; provide activities to improve physical and mental well-being; build support networks. Another CP was interested in similar work, and it would be possible to have a bigger project across a wider area. The Partnership discussed the project and raised the following points:

How smaller villages and rural areas could be reached by the project, JS confirmed that the project would include these areas; Transport options to bring people from rural areas to groups, this had been difficult for groups in the area and was being discussed by the CP Board; Whether the project would receive referrals from social prescribing programmes. JS confirmed it would. Cllr TJ Haworth Culf reminded JS that Councillors would be happy to promote any events through ward reports and other channels to ensure details were shared in smaller villages and rural areas. ZB suggested that considering issues around transport and rural areas, a task and finish group should be set up to ensure that all the details and measures were in place to support this project. The meeting agreed the project in principle subject to details being confirmed with a task and finish group to consider transport issues and the possibility of running the project

across multiple CP areas. ACTION – ZB to organise a task and finish group on transport for community groups.

## Consideration of the Community Partnership's Projects

### Healthy Movers

Fiona McMillan (FM) from the Youth Sport Trust summarised the 'Healthy Movers' programme, which provided training to early years practitioners with the aim of developing physical literacy in early years, developing self-esteem and wellbeing and helping children gain a better start in life. The project had been rolled out in other areas of Suffolk, with positive feedback particularly on the way it was perceived as a fun activity rather than exercise which often had negative perceptions. The Partnership discussed the project and raised the following points: How groups could sign up to the project. ZB confirmed that it would be rolled out to 8-10 settings initially, which were identified by partners depending on need; Options for match funding from Suffolk County Council; How smaller groups (such as childminders) could become involved; The Community Partnership agreed that a firm proposal with figures be brought to the next meeting. ACTION – FM and ZB to bring a proposal for this project to the next CP meeting.

### Talking Benches

ZB summarised the talking benches proposal. £1500 had been allocated to the partnership, which would fund around 4-5 benches. The Partnership could match funding to provide an additional 4-5 benches in the area. The Partnership discussed the project and raised the following points: The most appropriate sites for benches, ensuring they were not too isolated; The proposed signage - ZB confirmed this did not have to be used; Friendship benches at the primary school, which were popular with children; Siting of benches on footpaths and walking routes where people stopped and chatted; Whether some benches could be reserved for rural parishes - the Chair confirmed that funding would be extended as necessary to ensure all areas could have a bench. Partnership agreed to match funding for benches and send letter to town and parishes to confirm funding required. ACTION - £1500 to be provided for Talking Benches project, and a letter sent to Town and Parishes Councils to gauge interest.

### 2022 Community Partnership Priorities

The Chair was pleased with the opportunities that had come up within the meeting that would provide a focus for the next year. Councillor Julian Cusack asked whether ESC had any

plans for fuel poverty and whether this should be considered by the CP. NR responded that there was a task and finish group that had been set up by the CP board to consider food and fuel poverty across the district. County Council schemes were being promoted and there was a document available which set out all the sources of help available which was used by partner schemes, and ESC and CAB made referrals to schemes. The Council had also lobbied on payments for heating oil. ACTION – Details of fuel support schemes to be sent to Community Partnership.

Best regards;

#### Cllr Tony Cooper,

Aldeburgh Leiston Ward East Suffolk Council

(Tony is a member of Leiston cum Sizewell Town Council).

tony.cooper@eastsuffolk.gov.uk / tele. 01728 830181 or 07884054882

#### Cllr Russ Rainger

Aldeburgh Leiston Ward East Suffolk Council

(Russ is a member of Snape Parish Council).

Russ.Rainger@eastsuffolk.gov.uk / tele. 07825720522

#### Cllr Tom Daly

Aldeburgh Leiston Ward East Suffolk Council

Tom.daly@eastsuffolk.gov.uk

## INTERACTIVE TOOL ALLOWS PUBLIC TO MONITOR PROGRESS ON LOCAL PLANS

An interactive online feature has been launched for the public to track progress on the implementation of the Suffolk Coastal and Waveney Local Plans.

The five-minute interactive summary has been made available as East Suffolk Council publishes the Authority Monitoring Report 2020/21 - containing a range of monitoring data covering housing, economy, retail and town centres, the historic and natural environments and many more topics.

Some key statistics from the report include:

- 712 new homes built in East Suffolk
- 19% of these new homes are affordable homes
- 0.39 hectares of employment land developed
- 12% of units in designated town centres are vacant
- £6.5 million Community Infrastructure Levy payments collected

Cllr David Ritchie, East Suffolk Council's cabinet member for Planning and Coastal Management said: "This annual report is the main mechanism for assessing the delivery of the Local

*Plans and performs an important role by highlighting performance in key areas, such as housing delivery and employment land take-up. A mass of useful supporting and background information on environmental, economic and social matters in East Suffolk is also available through easy-to-search pages on our Open Data Portal and I would encourage people to find out more about what happened in their local area or parish in 2020/21."*

The East Suffolk Planning Policy Open Data Portal provides downloadable spreadsheets and GIS map files for

a range of datasets reported in the Authority Monitoring Report including:

**Housing:** New homes completed by parish; house type and number of bedrooms of new homes; affordable homes completed; statistics from the self-build and custom housebuilding register

**Employment:** Employment, retail and leisure completions and survey data from town centres and employment sites

**Site Allocations:** An update on progress of the delivery of sites allocated in Local Plans and Neighbourhood Plans

**Neighbourhood Planning:** Designated Neighbourhood Areas and Made

**Neighbourhood Plans in East Suffolk**  
The Open Data Portal also hosts an interactive online map of Planning Policies across East Suffolk, including those from the Suffolk Coastal and Waveney Local Plans and Neighbourhood Plans and the Brownfield Land Register.

## HELPING LOCAL CHARITY CUT EMISSIONS AND SAVE MONEY

A charity in Lowestoft reduces its environmental impact and its running costs thanks to donations from local district councillors.

Cllrs Peter Byatt, Janet Craig, Louise Gooch, Malcolm Pitchers, Linda Coulam, Andree Gee, Frank Mortimer and Trish Mortimer have jointly donated over £7,500 from their Enabling Communities Budgets to Citizens Advice in Lowestoft, allowing it to make environmental improvements to St Margaret's House, its distinctive Grade II listed building in the town centre.

The charity approached the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership's free survey service in 2018 to learn more about reducing its carbon footprint, lowering its energy bills and making its Victorian building more comfortable for staff and visitors.

After receiving support grants for modern radiators, roof insulation and LED lighting, an additional funding of £7,527 from East Suffolk Council's Enabling Communities Budget, boosted by The Geoffrey Watling Charity, meant the charity could also install secondary glazing, which was the last of the four recommendations from the survey.

Speaking on behalf of the Councillors who made a donation, Cllr Peter Byatt, local ward member for Kirkley and Pakefield, said: "Citizens Advice is a very worthy charity so we're extremely pleased to have been able to support it with a donation that has the twin benefits of cutting carbon emissions and saving money on electricity - money that can be better spent elsewhere on the charity's activities."

Janet John, the Chief Executive from Citizens Advice North East Suffolk said; "We were very appreciative of the initial environmental survey report that highlighted where we could make changes and thrilled that with various grants we have been able to make all the recommendations a reality.

*"This last activity, the installation of secondary glazing throughout, has not only meant we can keep heat in the building and make it draft free, the extra glazing keeps traffic noise from the outside to a minimum too. In fact, the impact was immediate. The day the secondary glazing was installed to coin a phrase from an old song "the silence was golden"!! and the whole building feels much more comfortable already.*

*"We are very grateful to the East Suffolk Councillors that made this possible and we look forward to welcoming the residents back to our cosy building and providing the advice and support they need once covid restrictions are lifted and face-to face meetings return."*

Carbon savings from the changes made to the building are expected to reduce its carbon footprint by 15tCO2e supporting a key strategic environmental aim of East Suffolk Council, whilst financial savings to the Citizens Advice should be in the region of £2500 - £3000 per year once the building is fully occupied again.

East Suffolk Council's Enabling Communities Budgets support activities delivered by community, voluntary and social enterprise organisations with each councillor having £7,500 per year to spend on community projects or to develop new projects in their ward to tackle local need.

Previous projects which have benefitted from Enabling Community Budget funding include play areas, village hall refurbishments and equipment, community events, projects supporting people with disabilities and the purchase of defibrillators.

Community groups wishing to apply for the funding should contact their district councillor or visit [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/community/community-grants-and-funding/enabling-communities-budgets/](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/community/community-grants-and-funding/enabling-communities-budgets/)



## LANDMARK BUILDING COMPLETED ON FELIXSTOWE'S SOUTH SEAFRONT

As part of ongoing investment in Felixstowe's South Seafront, the development of a new iconic café has now been completed, bringing a new exciting resort experience one step closer.

Starting in August 2020, Barnes Construction have now completed the build of the new landmark building, which will house a new café named 'The Kitchen @ Felixstowe', run by East Suffolk Council's operational partner, The Kitchen @ Group.

East Suffolk Council were incredibly excited to hand over the key of the iconic café to Cameron Marshall, owner of The Kitchen @ Group, who has begun the fit out of the internal space which will include a bakery counter, contemporary brasserie type menu and unrivalled sea views.

Once completed, the café will play a key role in helping the town as it continues recovering from the impact of Covid-19, attracting local people and visitors alike by offering indoor and outdoor dining with unspoilt views of the seafront. This will not only support tourism, but it will also help the economy by offering local employment opportunities, making the South Seafront an exciting place to visit, live, work and invest.

The ambitious project is being delivered by East Suffolk Council, Barnes Construction, the Kitchen @ Group, Plaice Design, Superstructures and Gill Associates.

Cllr Craig Rivett, East Suffolk's Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Economic Development, said: *"Despite the challenges we have all faced due to Covid-19 over the past many months, it is great that work has been able to continue on this development, which will transform the South Seafront for many years to come, ensuring it is a thriving place where people want to go, meet and spend their money."*

*"Now more than ever, this café is hugely important to Felixstowe and the local economy as not only will it provide a new eatery next to the beautiful seaside, attracting both local people and visitors, but it will also support economic growth and provide new employment opportunities as we hopefully continue to emerge from the impact of coronavirus. This is a very exciting time for the Dedham Boathouse Group to come in and play an active part in the resurgence of Felixstowe."*

*"The South Seafront has undergone significant redevelopment in recent years and East Suffolk Council has invested a lot in revitalising the area. We believe it is vital that we continue to build on this investment and create developments that benefit local businesses and people as well as visitors to the area."*

Cameron Marshall said: *"We're very excited to be part of this amazing project in Felixstowe and cannot wait to open and be part of the local and visiting community. Unfortunately, due to Covid, we have had several setbacks which have been out of our control, but we are fully committed to getting the internal fit out completed and to be open by spring 2022. We thank everyone for their continued support and interest."*



## POST OFFICE CONSERVATION REPAIRS TO BEGIN

Conservation repairs to the façade of the Grade II listed former Post Office on London Road North, carried out as part of the London Road, Lowestoft High Street Heritage Action Zone (HSHAZ) project, have begun.

The former Post Office on London Road North was built as a central post office for the town and served to combine several of the more provincial post offices which existed across the town prior to the 1880s. The building has gone through several phases of development between

the 1880s and early 20th century and work started on 17 January to repair the fabric of the Grade II listed building and restore the original appearance of the Post Office.

Planning and listed building consent has been approved for works to fix the roof, repair the windows, carry out conservation of stonework on the façade and reconfigure the ground floor windows to restore the entrance to the central bay of the building, as per the original design. This will incorporate repositioning the existing ramp which

would greatly improve the appearance of the building.

These repairs will be funded through the London Road, Lowestoft High Street Heritage Action Zone, financed by Historic England and East Suffolk Council, delivered in partnership with Lowestoft Town Council and East Suffolk Building Preservation Trust.

Tony Calladine, East of England Regional Director, Historic England said: *"As we start the new year, it's exciting to see work commencing to repair Lowestoft's historic Grade II listed former Post Office. This is a wonderful opportunity for people to see heritage restoration work in action, bringing this landmark local building back into use."*

Cllr Craig Rivett, East Suffolk's Deputy Leader and cabinet member for Economic Development said: *"This restoration work will greatly improve the appearance of this symbolic Lowestoft building and ensure it can be enjoyed in years to come. We are also looking forward to inviting local residents to learn more about heritage conservation as part of this restoration work."*

Funding will also be made available for the conservation repairs through the Towns Fund, money which has been allocated to East Suffolk Council from central government to drive the sustainable economic regeneration of towns to

deliver long term economic and productivity growth.

Local contractors R G Carter have taken possession of the building, with works expected to be completed by early summer.

James Wilson, Director and General Manager of R G Carter, said: *"We are delighted to be working on this unique restoration project and playing our part to bring such an important local building back to its former glory. It will look fantastic when it's finished and help to preserve the rich architectural heritage in this town."*

An aim of the High Street Heritage Action Zone is to share knowledge about conservation repairs and how to look after historic buildings. Through the conservation repairs at the Post Office opportunities will be provided for members of the public to visit the site to take part in interactive conservation seminars. More information on how to book will be released in the coming weeks. Progress on the works will be shared through [thinklowestoft.co.uk](http://thinklowestoft.co.uk) and via the Lowestoft HAZ social media channels.

The repair works will help facilitate a new use for the building, plans for which are to be announced later in the year.

## BEACH HUT VILLAGE PROJECT TO BE DELAYED

**In consultation with local stakeholders and to avoid disruption during the summer season, construction of the new Felixstowe beach hut village will now get under way in September.**

Having been granted planning permission for a new beach hut village on Felixstowe's South Seafront in October 2021, East Suffolk Council had originally intended to begin construction during the next few weeks. This would have enabled it to be ready ahead of the summer season.

However, with further permissions required before construction could proceed, the project has been delayed by approximately three months. This means that it would not be ready in time for the summer season as hoped and, as a result, we have therefore decided that construction will now get underway in September 2022.

This follows discussions with local businesses, residents and other stakeholders about the likely disruption that construction will cause and a determination not to impact on this year's summer season and everything the South Seafront has to offer.

Cllr Craig Rivett, East Suffolk Council's Deputy Leader and cabinet member for Economic Development, said:

*"Tourism is incredibly important to East Suffolk and once completed, this new beach village will attract visitors from across the country, increasing footfall in the town centre, boosting the local economy and enhancing the lives of local residents. However, we must get the timing exactly right and there would be no benefit in commencing a scheme which would be ready out of season."*

*"The South Seafront has undergone significant redevelopment in recent years and East Suffolk Council has invested a lot in revitalising the area. We believe it is vital that we continue to build on this investment and create developments that benefit local businesses and people as well as visitors to the area."*

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**[www.recyclenow.com](http://www.recyclenow.com)**

## Recycle these items at home in a compost bin



Compost information/offers  
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## For more information visit our A-Z of recycling

**[www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk](http://www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk)**

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recycling right is  
better for you and  
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## ONLY these items in your recycling bin

Other items will cause contamination and reduce the quality of recycling



### paper / card



Paper, newspapers,  
magazines and junk mail



Books, paperback  
and hardback



Cardboard, clean food  
packaging, boxes and cards



### metals



Aluminium foil and trays -  
roll foil into a ball



Food and drinks  
cans



Empty aerosols - no paint,  
fertilizer or weed killer



### plastic



Plastic bottles - empty,  
wash, squash and lid on



Plastic yoghurt pots,  
tubs and food trays

all items  
bigger

than  
4cm