

## County Councillor Report



### Parish Councils, September 2024

Councillor Jessica Fleming, Hartismere Division. Tel. 07714-597980 [Jessica.fleming@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Jessica.fleming@suffolk.gov.uk)

**Bus Service Changes** – Due to a change in management at Simonds, many bus timetables have changed as of the beginning of September and affect routes 70/73 (Garbaldisham/Bury). The contract covering the 110/113/114 was retendered this summer but no changes to the timetable were proposed. The County Council is supporting an interim service for badly affected routes until the end of 2024, with the intention that longer term services can be set up for 2025. Please get in touch with me if you have comments or questions.

**Retro-fit Conference** – Suffolk Preservation Society is holding a one-day workshop at Haughley Park Barn, Haughley Park, Stowmarket, IP14 3JY on Tuesday 12 November. 10am – 4pm. The workshop will deliver practical advice and examples of successful Retrofit projects of different building types, and will provide 6 hours of CPD. [DETAILS OF SPEAKERS AND HOW TO BOOK](#)

**Back to School** - While many children and young people will be looking forward to going back to school some families may be feeling anxious. There is a lot of support out there to help children manage the transition back into school, including a suite of top tips for families on the Suffolk County Council website: [www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/wellbeing-in-education](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/wellbeing-in-education).

**'Simpler Recycling'** - Suffolk County Council is preparing for changes to national statutory recycling and waste collection which will come into effect by the end of March 2026. "Simpler Recycling" requires plastic, metal, paper and card plus glass (new) to be collected from homes, flats, workplaces and schools across England along with separate kerbside food waste collection which will be a new programme. Major infrastructure and service changes are needed at the County Council which is responsible for disposal, these include alterations to waste transfer stations to enable the separate collection of food waste, glass and enhanced recycling as well as treatment facilities for food waste which do not exist in Suffolk at present. Refer to: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/simpler-bin-collections-for-england-to-boost-recycling>

**Flood Investigation Reports** Suffolk County Council is publishing its investigation reports into extreme flooding during storm Babet, Framlingham and Needham Market are now available Refer to <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/council-news/two-suffolk-flood-investigation-reports-published-in-latest-response-to-storm-babet>

Anyone who suffered internal flooding as a result of Storm Babet can still apply for the £5k resilience grant until April 2025, and anyone interested should make contact with [floodgrants@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:floodgrants@suffolk.gov.uk).

**Engagement with Police & Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable** - There is an on-line public meeting planned for Tuesday November 6<sup>th</sup> at 6pm via Microsoft Teams. Please email [spcc@suffolk.police.uk](mailto:spcc@suffolk.police.uk) to register and an invite will be sent through in advance of the meeting.

**Major Planning** – the MSDC planning committee voted on August 28<sup>th</sup> to defer a major petrol station and lorry park proposal DC/22/00416 on the A140 north roundabout pending a site visit and further study into water management, cumulative impacts and flood risk.

**Norwich to Tilbury Pylons** – National Grid is reviewing the results of its recent survey, and has stated *‘Over the next 12 months we will prepare an application for a Development Consent Order (DCO). When we submit our application, we will publish a Consultation Report which will set out how we have considered the feedback we received during statutory consultation.’* This presumes that the overground option will be taken forward without consideration of other options, as Grid previously committed to do. Preliminary investigative work to support the DCO application continues.

**Offshore Coordination Support Scheme (OCSS)** - The new government has pulled the OCSS. Participation in the OCSS was not mandatory and its effectiveness was questionable.

Rosie Pearson (Pylon Group) has been accepted as a speaker on 18<sup>th</sup> September at the **Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum policy conference: Next steps for grid infrastructure in the UK**. Follow this group on:

[https://www.facebook.com/groups/pylonseastanglia/?multi\\_permalink=1235491340824452](https://www.facebook.com/groups/pylonseastanglia/?multi_permalink=1235491340824452)

**Bramford to Twinstead Pylon Scheme** - National Grid’s Bramford to Twinstead pylon project was approved on 12 September by the Rt Hon Ed Miliband MP, Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero. Despite objecting to the Bramford to Twinstead pylon application, the County Council succeeded in influencing the process and the Secretary of State acknowledged the importance of local authorities in project planning.

Please get in touch with me if you have questions or comments: [Jessica.fleming@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Jessica.fleming@suffolk.gov.uk)  
Tel: 07714-597980 Twitter: @jesstfleming