

PARISH REPORT JUNE 2025

ORWELL & VILLAGES

East Suffolk Council - HERE For You!

Following a successful series of events last year, East Suffolk officers and councillors will be visiting towns around the district again this summer, chatting to local people about council services and asking how they feel about what we do.

Events have taken place in Saxmundham, Lowestoft and Kesgrave this year, and will be followed by Beccles in July, Felixstowe and Southwold in August before finishing in Framlingham in September.

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.

East Suffolk Council - HERE For You! Come and find us at:

16 July - Beccles

6 August - Felixstowe

27 August - Southwold

24 September - Framlingham

All events are from 10am until 1pm.

The event in Felixstowe on 6th August will take place on the Triangle in Hamllton Road with local councillors, senior officers and other staff taking part.

£4.8million for leisure centre decarbonisation drive

Ambitious plans to upgrade and decarbonise three of the district's leisure centres are moving forward after East Suffolk Council successfully secured a £2.8million Government grant.

Along with an additional £2m investment of its own, the grant of £2.8m from the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme, run by Salix on behalf of the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero, will help the Council take a major step towards its goal of becoming carbon neutral by 2030.

Leisure centres currently represent the single largest contributor to the Council's greenhouse gas emissions – now accounting for around 42% of the total – and tackling emissions from the buildings is crucial to reaching overall carbon reduction targets.

Planned upgrades to Leiston, Waterlane, and Deben leisure centres will focus on replacing outdated gas boilers with cutting-edge air source heat pump systems for heating, and CO2 heat

pumps for hot water in some locations, significantly cutting energy use and emissions at all three sites.

Additionally, Deben Leisure Centre will benefit from a new roof, and all three centres will gain further solar panel installations to help offset increased electricity use from the switch to electric-only systems. Funding will also help future-proof the centres by supporting the replacement of ageing equipment due for renewal – reducing the carbon footprint while avoiding major upfront costs.

GLI Councillor Sarah Whitelock, Cabinet Member for Communities, Culture, Leisure and Tourism, said:

“This funding is a game-changer. It allows us to make real progress towards our environmental goals while continuing to invest in high-quality leisure facilities for our communities. We’re proud to be taking action that benefits both residents and the planet.”

All schemes will be implemented within two years – marking a significant step towards a greener, more sustainable future for East Suffolk, benefitting both the environment and local community. The transformation of Leiston, Waterlane and Deben Leisure Centres is part of the Council’s wider commitment to sustainability, with previous work including improved insulation, LED lighting, solar panels and pool covers to reduce heat loss.

Community spaces set to flourish again as environmental scheme returns

‘East Suffolk Blooms’, which encourages people in East Suffolk to grow beautiful, pollinator-friendly wildflowers, is returning for 2025.



Each year, East Suffolk Council distributes free packs of bulbs to town and parish councils, community groups and organisations to plant locally as part of the East Suffolk Blooms campaign.

Successful applicants to last year’s scheme planted numerous native bulbs in towns and villages across East Suffolk, resulting in colourful flower displays which benefitted pollinators.

This time, in tandem with the East Suffolk’s Amazing project to promote an all-round effort to help maintain the beauty and cleanliness of the district, earlier flowering bulbs are being offered that provide colour during early spring.

GLI Cllr Sally Noble, East Suffolk’s cabinet member for the Environment, said:

“Year on year, we continue to receive a high level of interest in this scheme, which is why we are pleased it is returning for 2025.

“We expect to have enough bags of bulbs to distribute one to each of 50 groups across the district, and we look forward to receiving applications for East Suffolk Blooms 2025.”

Packs of Carlton daffodil bulbs will be available to collect in the autumn, around October, from two locations in the district.

The scheme is funded by East Suffolk Services Ltd, who will be providing £3,000 worth of flowering bulbs.

An application form will be available to complete online until 31 August, before a judging panel meets to decide the successful applicants, with additional consideration given to groups reapplying after missing out last year. Applicants will then be informed of the decision by September.

Apply at: my.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/service/east_suffolk_blooms

Just a reminder that trees and hedges are available to parish councils and other groups. I know that some of our parishes have already applied. Further details available here. Free Trees for Schools and Communities - Woodland Trust

Anti-social behaviour

With the return of good weather and impending school holidays anti-social behaviour is expected to increase. The Felixstowe Peninsula generally has much lower levels of ASB than some other localities and we want to keep it that way.

Reporting ASB

Suffolk Police - <https://www.suffolk.police.uk/ro/report/> or via 101 (999 in emergencies) aggressive, noisy or abusive behaviour / neighbourhood disturbances involving drugs / abandoned cars or animals.

Newtide Housing - <https://www.newtide-homes.co.uk/my-community/safe-communities/> or 0808 168 4555. Any ASB in or around Newtide homes.

Environmental Protection - <https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/environment/environmental-protection/noise-andother-nuisances/> or 0333 016 2000 . Noise nuisance /smoke/ rubbish.

Communities - <https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/community/anti-social-behaviour/> or 0333 016 2000 – neighbour disputes, racist graffiti, low level anti-social behaviour.

Please remember that no action can be taken unless the relevant bodies know of it. Just talking about it on social media is not enough.

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

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