

Framlingham Ward Newsletter

September 2024

Vince Langdon-Morris District Councillor

Framlingham Flood Resilience and Recovery Working Group

Meetings: The group met last Wednesday 27th August 2024, see this [link](#) to Framlingham Town Council (FTC) webpage and links to reports. Our Framlingham Flood risk assessment (completed in March 24) has been assessed by the Environment Agency. An official noted that we (Fram) are 'ahead' of other areas, and that the statutory Suffolk County Council (SCC) Section 19 flood report was the first to be completed. The working group has reviewed all the current flood reporting and agreed to consolidate key findings into a summary for presentation at the next public meeting, planned for Sunday, 20th October 2024. Our comments will also be fed back to SCC, who will revise and update these section 19 report every 6 months.

Suffolk County Council (SCC) [Property flood resilience \(PFR\) grant scheme](#). As of 30th July 2024, 31 applications for PFR grants had been submitted to SCC (against 227 houses eligible for flood resilience funding). Take up for this grant have been low, roughly 10% of eligible properties in Suffolk (*note, compared to other areas of the UK, Suffolk is currently getting the highest take up*). This could be that there is a pipeline of applications, where residents are still commissioning surveys and seeking quotes for work to be done? Residents have up until the end April 2025 to apply. SCC is also planning further advertising and more information about how to access the PFR, including highlighting case studies of successful local installations.

Wildflowers Across the Town

This year, working with the Swift and Wildlife Group, we have planted various locations across Framlingham Town with small stands of wildflowers. The response from residence has been positive and we are seeking permission to create a greater 'splash of colour' across the town in future.



The East Suffolk 'Be Well' Bus: The 'Be Well' bus continues to roll into Framlingham. During its last visit the theme was 'Financial inclusion'. I have received some very positive feedback from residents about the latest visit, which had specialists from the East Suffolk District Council on board. Residents mentioned that their experience on the Bus had been helpful and informative (it's nice to get positive feedback) and we will be advertising the next visit to the town. If there are any council services you would like to see on the Bus, please let me know and I can follow up.



Framlingham Post Office: As you all know the Post Office has re-opened, and the Barclays pop-up bank has moved into the old sorting office (next door). Cash: the Post Office, Coop ATM and Coop Cash Back remain the only way to get cash in Framlingham (please note that the newly established pop-up bank does not offer cash services).

Bike Race. Tour of Britain [East Suffolk will host the overall finish of the Men's, Lloyds Bank Tour of Britain](#) on Sunday 8 September. Starting in Lowestoft, this cycling event will travel through the district, finishing in Felixstowe (the entire final stage takes place in East Suffolk for the first time). The tour is expected to pass through Framlingham at about 12:45.

Another bike race: [Dunwich Dynamo 2024](#)

Many may not know that an alternative bike race passed through Framlingham late Saturday night, 20th July 2024. The Dunwich Dynamo is a 112-mile ride from London to Dunwich that passes through Fram at about 2am!



Fly Tipping: In early June rubbish was fly tipped on a farm near Dennington. This was reported to me by both the farmer and East Suffolk Council officers. I have followed up with the ESC legal team and the ESC officers involved in investigating this fly tipping (I have now received all the latest legislation, if you would like this info, please contact me).

See this recent Government report: [Chasing down the money to stop waste crime](#). *“Waste crime is costing our economy an estimated £1 billion a year; that is money being spent dealing with the damage these criminals cause, that could be better spent on essential services.”*

There are two recycling facilities nearby, Leiston and Foxhall/Ipswich. Please use them. I will strongly support our council officers to both investigate and wherever we can, prosecute individuals that feel the need to despoil our countryside.



East Suffolk Council, Green Liberal Independent (GLI) Group Update

Celebrating and connecting culture in East Suffolk

A new network has been launched to connect creatives and celebrate the diversity of culture, arts and heritage on offer in East Suffolk.

East Suffolk has a vibrant creative sector, with a wealth of local talent inspired by the district's beautiful coast, busy market towns and stunning rural landscapes. To highlight its commitment to culture, East Suffolk Council has now added the sector to the portfolio of GLI Cllr Sarah Whitelock, now cabinet member for Communities, Culture, Leisure and Tourism.

The council has driven forward its Cultural Strategy and has now also created a new network for East Suffolk's creative industry. The 'Culture in East Suffolk' network and accompanying newsletter aims to improve communication between the cultural sector and share opportunities, funding information, events, business support and more. A new Cultural Development Lead Officer has been appointed to deliver this activity.

GLI Cllr Sarah Whitelock said: "Culture plays an essential role in our district, providing important social, community, economic and reputational benefits. We recognise the transformative powers of culture in our places and communities and the opportunities it provides to come together with others, enhancing our quality of life and increasing overall wellbeing. Culture is thriving in East Suffolk and the amendment to my portfolio highlights its importance and the necessity to support the creative sector."

The council continues to support cultural sector organisations, projects, programmes, and regeneration projects in a variety of ways, including First Light Festival CIC, Lowestoft Post Office, the Cultural Quarter, Think Lowestoft, Lowestoft Town Hall, St Elizabeth Hospice Art Trail, Cultural Connections Volunteering as well as supporting many town events and community focused activities.

Cultural activities have also been offered through the Council's Holidays and Food (HAF) programme, which provides activities for children and young people during the school holidays. Museum visits, arts programmes and music activities have all been well received and help children build confidence and foster creativity.

The 'Culture in East Suffolk' network is open to all cultural organisations and individual creators.

Find out more at: www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/business/culture-in-east-suffolk/

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.”

East Suffolk Council - HERE For You!

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.

GLI Cllr Sarah Whitelock, East Suffolk Council's cabinet member for Communities, Culture, Leisure and Tourism said: “Holiday activity programmes enable young people to get involved in a wide range of different activities to help keep them active over the summer holidays, benefitting both their physical and mental health. The activities are a way for children to meet new people and learn new skills. They also provide support for families who may be struggling with the costs of food and energy during the school holidays.”

Each funded holiday activity also offers a free meal, and places are redeemed by eligible families through the booking system. 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.

Activity providers include Kicks and Tricks Ltd, Abbeycroft Leisure, Premier Sports, the Football Fun Factory, Everyone Active, Kinda Education, Catch22, Oulton Broad Water Sports Centre, the Art Station, Footstars, Marina Theatre, Suffolk Wildlife Trust (Carlton Marshes), Suffolk Wildlife Trust (Foxburrow), Next Thing Education, East Suffolk Council, Xtra Time Sports Development, Earthwake, Ipswich Town FC, ASSET Education, Re-Utillise, Britten Pears Arts, Africa Alive, Offshoot, the PE Shed, Inspire Suffolk, MiniMe Mindfulness, Grow Cook Eat and Dialled Cycle works.

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/suffolkha

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/

For the most up to date information regarding East Suffolk Council, please visit: www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk