

Suffolk County Council report from Cllr Andy Drummond:

I am delighted that Conservative MP Nick Timothy is doing such a great job representing West Suffolk and we should be proud of his recent promotion to shadow justice secretary. Nick is also an excellent constituency MP, and he has engaged with all the parishes within my division, and I work closely with his team to ensure his constituency days (which tend to be on Fridays) are as beneficial as possible.

I'm the Newmarket & Red Lodge division, Suffolk County Councillor which covers half of Newmarket - that being the North ward and half of East ward. The division also covers five other parishes: Red Lodge, Kentford, Moulton, Dalham and Herringswell which completes the division.

Under the boundary review the division is changing and in the May 2026 elections. Newmarket North and Dalham will be removed and the entirety of East ward will move into this division. I shall be standing in these elections which take place on Thursday 7th May and ask for your support.

I also represent Icen ward on West Suffolk Council – as its within my county division and I live in the village of Herringswell – part of the division/ward.

I am also a member of Newmarket Town Council and Red Lodge Parish Council.

You will know by now that under devolution Suffolk is being split into three unitary councils. This will be challenging – especially for the town of Ipswich which will be responsible for all the services previously supplied by county and the borough.

On county I've been a member of the development and regulation committee - a kind of planning committee - not for housing because that's the remit of West Suffolk - but for development that county has the powers to determine itself such as public rights of way, schools, and quarries.

I try to attend all the town and parish meetings that occur in my division - it can be complicated because they are sometimes on the same night. For example, Mondays tend to be quite busy with many meetings on the same day and at the same time.

It would be good going forward if the town and parishes could coordinate their meetings so that there is no overlap.

At the parish meetings I usually give a verbal report. A written monthly parish newsletter that covers Suffolk is sent to your members by email. I take questions and feedback to the parish clerk on any queries that I can't answer on the night.

During the month I cascade information that I receive to parish clerks such as deployment dates of the ANPR camera and road closures which is hopefully shared with local members.

Being in the moratorium period I'm not using my county email for this report, so I'm contactable on: **Andy@Lettergold.co.uk** or mobile on 07710 027 343 if you have any issues pertaining to county which could include:

- Roads and transport
- Care and support for adults
- Children, families, and learning
- Fire and rescue services
- Trading Standards
- Waste recycling
- Culture, heritage, and leisure

County councillors have two types of locality budget - one that's non-specific and another for Highways issues.

I will now detail the various projects across my division during 2025/26:

NEWMARKET

Newmarket Charitable Trust – contribution to shop signage for a High Street pop-up shop

Newmarket Town Council – contribution to the public conveniences' refurbishment

Newmarket Town Council – planters on the High Street to prevent anti-social parking

National Horseracing Museum – tree works and replacements

Total £6,600

RED LODGE

Portable tennis ball launcher £1,179

MOULTON

Music & yoga grant

Moulton Pre-School play equipment

Moulton Pre-School – accountancy support

Total £2,340

KENTFORD

Parish Council – license for dog waste bin

Notice Board

Total £792

DALHAM

Floor refurbishment in the village hall

Unsuitable for HGV signs

Total £695



Annual Town & Parish Meetings are always a good way of getting a feel for what's going well and what's not – contentious issues draw big crowds whereas small crowds indicate satisfaction!

With respect to the meetings that I can attend I look forward to finding out what issues are of concern to residents, should I be re-elected.

Thank you.

May 2026