
September 2021 District Councillor report

for

Dalham Parish Council

Dalham

I had a very enjoyable visit to the 'Following the Light' art exhibition at the Dalham Parish church of St Mary the Virgin, a fine 14th Century building in a wonderfully elevated position. A very warm welcome with Tea and excellent cakes with the added bonus of meeting a Parish Councillor. Many thanks.

Planning Seminar

Following on from requests for planning assistance within the Ward and a positive response from Parish Councils for my suggestion for a planning seminar, I'm in discussion with the Director for planning at West Suffolk Council. The current workload for the planning department is vast as the post covid-19 demand for planning has increased and as a consequence I still remain hopeful for an event(s) before winter. The format, as yet undecided, will encompass all aspects of planning, from application, consultees, material planning considerations, planning policies, listed buildings, conservation, the online planning portal, Delegation Panel, Development Control Committee, enforcement, the evolving West Suffolk Local Plan and the Appeal process. I may also seek assistance from the Suffolk Association of Local Councils and also value input from all Parish Councillors.

Current Consultations

Consultations on the West Suffolk Gambling Act Policy 2021 and West Suffolk Green Infrastructure Strategy are open until 20 September 2021 and 30 September 2021 respectively. For further information, see <https://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/Council/Consultations/consultation-listing.cfm>

Useful Information

Offices Council offices [westsuffolk.gov.uk](https://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk) – including directions, addresses, phone numbers and opening hours

Housing Associations, ARP and Abbeycroft

Flagship Homes – 08081684555

Havebury – 03003300900

Council Tax: 01284 757275 / counciltax@angliarevenues.gov.uk

Housing Benefit / Council Tax reduction: 01284 757269 / benefits@angliarevenues.gov.uk

Business Rates: 01842 756568 / nndr@angliarevenues.gov.uk

Abbeycroft : 01284 757473

Service area Overview and responsibilities Contact details

Adult Social Care and Health Help and support to live independently, social care services, paying for care, protecting vulnerable people and information for social care providers. Website:

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/care-and-support-for-adults>

/Email:customer.first@suffolk.gov.uk. Phone: 08088 004 005

Children, Families and Learning Schools, children with special educational needs and disability (SEND), childcare and Family Information Service, fostering and adoption, children's health, Raising the Bar and The Parent Hub. Website:

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/>

Email:customer.service@suffolk.gov.uk Phone: 03456 066 067

Community and Safety.Trading standards advice for consumers, Emergency Planning, crime and public safety and staying safe online, moving to Suffolk and funding opportunities.

Website: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/community-and-safety/>

Email:customer.service@suffolk.gov.uk Phone: 03456 066 067

Economy, Skills and Environment. Planning application advice and guidance, waste recycling centres and rubbish tips, listed buildings and green conservation areas. Website: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/planning-waste-and-environment/customer.service@suffolk.gov.uk>

Suffolk Gardens ranks in top five free attractions in country - Abbey Gardens in Bury St Edmunds has been named as one of the top free attractions in the country

Calls for engine idling to be punished with £20 fines – Parking enforcement officers in West Suffolk are set to begin talking to drivers over engine idling from next week – but calls have been made for fines to be allowed

HGV noise and pollution on Bury St Edmunds estate 'unacceptable' - Suffolk County Council has been urged to take action addressing long-running problems of noise and pollution from lorries on Moreton Hall in Bury St Edmunds

Decision is delayed on 200 new homes for edge of Exning village – A decision on plans for more than 200 homes and a nursery near Newmarket has been pushed back so that issues can be ironed out.

New 500k pipeline will bring water to Suffolk and Essex – Works on the new 500k pipeline that is being built to carry water from wetter parts of north Lincolnshire to drier areas in Suffolk and Essex is set to step up a gear over the next few months as new planning applications for the scheme are submitted. West Suffolk Council is mentioned as it and other authorities are due to consider applications in their areas.

Mike Chester

District Councillor for the Chedburgh and Chevington Ward

Vice-Chair of West Suffolk District Council