December 2024 Parish Report
East Suffolk Council GLI Group – Councillor Update

East Suffolk photo competition – capture the amazing!

We're excited to announce the return of 'East Suffolk Through the Lens' – our popular photo competition which celebrates how amazing East Suffolk is.

From picturesque coastlines and charming villages to vibrant towns and tranquil nature reserves, East Suffolk is brimming with stunning sights just waiting to be captured.

Whether you're an experienced photographer or just love taking photos, this is your chance to showcase what makes our district such a special place to live, work and visit.

Your shot could win you high street vouchers worth up to £100 and may even feature on the cover of East Suffolk Magazine, which is delivered to thousands of households across East Suffolk. Entries close at 11:59pm on Thursday 30 January 2025.

So, what are you waiting for? Submit your best photos now at:
my.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/service/Photo_competition

Aldeburgh land transferred to council

A dedicated group of volunteers will play a key role in boosting biodiversity on a patch of land adopted for public ownership in their community.

The eight-acre plot, divided by Prevetts Way, at Church Farm, Aldeburgh, has been transferred to East Suffolk Council as part of a planning obligation by housing developers.

It means that the open green space, commonly used by dogwalkers and residents accessing the town on foot, will be maintained by East Suffolk Services Limited in partnership with a newly formed community group.

The transfer of ownership completes an outstanding planning obligation, now known as a Section 106 agreement, with developers of the adjacent Church Farm housing development. A capital sum has also been transferred, in accordance with the same agreement, to cover a 10-year maintenance period.

East Suffolk Council commissioned Suffolk Wildlife Trust's ecological consultancy team, Wilder Ecology, to conduct a survey of the site to record existing habitats, identify opportunities to enhance biodiversity and create a longer-term management plan for the area. Future projects and management proposals included the introduction of wildflowers and restoration of a pond within a wooded area of the site.

The Council then met with local residents to discuss options for the site and agree the formation of a 'Friends of' group to support management of the land as an open space for the enjoyment of the public.

GLI Cllr Sarah Whitelock, ward member for Aldeburgh and Leiston, was in attendance at the meeting. She said: "I commend the residents of Aldeburgh who have volunteered to help with the maintenance and upkeep of the space. We also welcome those who have inputted their wishes for the area, as this helps it become a great space for many to enjoy in the coming years."

GLI Cllr Sally Noble, East Suffolk Council Cabinet member with responsibility for the Environment, said: "Creating a long-term plan for this piece of land is highly important.

Appropriate management of the area will ensure that the wildlife can thrive, and residents can enjoy this space for years to come. The plan laid out by Wilder Ecology is thorough and covers all elements of the environment, including grassland, trees and grass verges which benefit the wildlife native to this area."

Anyone interested in getting involved in managing the site going forward can contact: operations@eastsuffolk.gov.uk

East Suffolk's Amazing

We invest every single penny we can in services to help maintain the beauty and cleanliness of East Suffolk but sometimes admit that it can never necessarily be enough.

A cross-party working group of councillors is already working on different ways we can work to maintain the beauty of East Suffolk, which includes encouraging more residents to take active pride in their local area.

This includes reducing fly-tipping, recycling properly and even, where possible, looking after the spaces outside your own property. We are also working closely and collaboratively with Suffolk County Council who have responsibility for weeds on roads and pavements, potholes and road signs.

There is already an incredible network of volunteers who work to help keep our district beautiful, with regular litter-picks, planting, and an all-round effort to keep their local area clean. If East Suffolk matters to you, if you want to play your part, we would love you to get involved. East Suffolk's Amazing... let's keep it that way!

The Council will support local communities and groups by lending equipment for litter pick events, including hi-vis vests, litter pickers, bags and bag hoops. A range of information about how communities can get involved in schemes, as well as a range of tips and advice, can be found at: **eastsuffolk.gov.uk/waste/litter/amazing/**

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**

View the Well Minds East Suffolk booklet: tinyurl.com/9xhka624