NEWSLETTER - SEPTEMBER 2026

Welcome to my monthly newsletter

Bottle banks : East Suffolk will remove bottle banks if asked – but this should really by via parish and town councils . The service is remaining in place under the county wide contract with CountryStyle. This contract is in place until 2028 and performance of banks will be kept under review. – after 2028 it looks like they will be removed .

Electrical recycling : Due to a fire at the Thetford Waste Electrical disposal facility this service has been suspended for both kerbside collections and the 3 'bring' sites in Martlesham, Kesgrave and Saxmundham. East Suffolk does not have any confirmed restart date for this service.

You can find out more information about local recycling centres and where you can take your small electricals via recycle Suffolk website There seems to be no alternative provision in place which is a shame

Coronation Avenue Resurfacing Complete





I have welcomed the successful completion of major resurfacing works on Coronation Avenue in Hollesley, hailing the project as a critical victory for community safety and rural infrastructure.

The comprehensive overhaul comes after my extensive campaign lobbying East Suffolk (who owns this road) to prioritize the deteriorating road. Residents have suffered from severe surface degradation, structural wear, and patch-work repairs that failed to withstand the elements.

The freshly laid carriageway marks a transition from reactive maintenance to the robust investment I have consistently demanded for the area's rural routes.



Happy residents at their newly resurfaced road and new road signs , marking a new chapter in the history of Coronation Avenue

Pleased to see EADT picked up on the story :

https://www.eadt.co.uk/news/26467272.hollesley-coronation-avenue-road-resurfacing-completed/

Illegal Rave

I was shocked to hear about an illegal rave in Rendlesham forest a couple of weeks ago – in the middle of a dangerous period for our landscape when any spark , discarded cigarette , could cause huge damage to forest , heath and farm land . I contacted the police reporting the issue at the time but sadly they took nearly 24 hrs to attend , still chasing up for an explanation why they took so long to attend . In particular noise pollution was noticed at Boyton and Butley . I spoke out about the rave to EADT to highlight the issue and remind all residents and visitors to tread lightly in our countryside to protect our landscapes

The article can be read here :

https://www.eadt.co.uk/news/26417168.illegal-rave-rendlesham-forest-called-nightmare/

and it stated

Quote

James Mallinder, councillor for Deben ward, said: "I am shocked and deeply sickened that an illegal rave took place in Rendlesham Forest this weekend.

"This was not just a minor disturbance; it was a nightmare for local residents.

"The surrounding villages of Boyton and Butley, in particular, had their sleep severely interrupted by pulsing and banging bass music.

"Beyond the immense noise pollution affecting both our communities and our local wildlife, we must look at the far-reaching dangers of these unauthorized events.

"During the summer season, the risk of accidental wildfire sparked by negligence is a massive threat to our natural habitats."

Unquote

Press release - Trying to push the Stop Sign issue at Duck Corner

COUNCILLOR MALLINDER DEMANDS URGENT ACTION AT DUCK CORNER HOLLESLEY : THE CAMPAIGN FOR A SAFETY STOP SIGN

Councillor Mallinder is launching a formal campaign demanding Suffolk Highways install a mandatory 'STOP' sign at the notorious Duck Corner junction in Hollesley to prevent further accidents.

The junction has become a major safety concern for local residents due to poor visibility, increasing traffic volumes, and a rising number of near-misses and collisions. The current 'GIVE WAY' signage is failing to slow down oncoming traffic, putting motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians at constant risk.

"The safety of Hollesley residents cannot be compromised any longer," said Councillor Mallinder. "Duck Corner has earned a dangerous reputation, and we cannot sit back and wait for a fatal accident to occur before taking decisive action. A simple upgrade to a mandatory 'STOP' sign will force drivers to halt, assess the blind spots, and significantly reduce the risk of collisions."

The campaign will gather data on near-misses and ask residents support on requesting immediate action from the County Council . Councillor Mallinder is urging all Hollesley residents, business owners, and regular commuters to back the initiative and pressure highways authorities for an immediate safety review. Cllr mallinder will continue to work with Hollesley Parish council to articulate their views and those of local residents . The parish council has for a number of years highlighted this problem junction but have been largely ignored , however the number of near misses is climbing and with many visitors over the summer months its important to have the right signage at this junction.

EAST SUFFOLK FAILURE TO IMPLEMENT NEW WASTE COLLECTIONS – A TOTAL BIN-TASTROPHE - issues on going

I am still very worried this are still substantial issues on waste collection across the Peninsula

There hasn't been one week since the changes took place at the beginning of June that hasn't been missed collections – food waste collections in particular continue to be very problematic . In Sept Full council we will be discussing these issues at length , they are far from being resolved and points at institutional failure to delivery public policy and poor political leadership - should there be resignations ?

SPOKE OUT ABOUT REFORM SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL CANCELLING ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES



I spoke out against SCC cancelling the climate emergency and environmental focused policies and have called for the immediate reinstatement of the county's Climate Emergency declaration .

The administration's decision has been thrown into sharp focus by a catastrophic wildfire decimating acres of biodiverse, internationally protected coastal landscapes at Dunwich Heath

I pioneered landmark green initiatives during my tenure as Cabinet Member for the Environment at East Suffolk Council, and by axing the declaration is an insult to local residents and a dangerous retreat from public duty.

Cancelling the climate emergency is a dark, regressive step for Suffolk. Declaring an emergency is not about empty slogans or political rhetoric—it is a vital mechanism that embeds environmental accountability into the heart of every single public policy we make.The devastating wildfires ravaging Dunwich Heath are a terrifyingly timely reminder of the reality we face. To pretend that we can address habitat loss, extreme weather, and community resilience while actively stripping away our climate commitments is utter delusion.

Not only this but by reinstating the framework this will be key to unlocking green infrastructure resources, securing environmental grants, and ensuring Suffolk is equipped to protect its unique biodiversity.

Free community Access for Sutton Hoo

The pass allows community groups free access to Sutton Hoo site (including buildings) throughout the year so they can come more than once and they don't need to bring the same individuals every time.

Please find an application form included with this newsletter , once completed please return it to Jessica Campell along with a copy of the Group Constitution or Memorandum of Association and a copy of their Public Liability insurance,

Capell, Jessica Jessica.Capell@nationaltrust.org.uk

If you could also keep me update on who applies so I can follow up

Attended Shottisham Fete

Attended the last fete on the Peninsula over the August Bank holiday at Shottisham Great to chat with new and old friends - discussion on failure of Reform county council to care for the environmental or make any difference to life on the Peninsular and of course the major failure of East Suffolk Green Party to implement a change in household Waste collection







BUS STATEMENT FROM REFORM SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL

I wrote a letter to the Reform Suffolk county councillor responsible for public transport and received the following reply on the lack of bus provision on the Peninsula ,

‘ services in the Deben ward have experienced the same pressures seen in rural situations across Suffolk (and beyond). Low population densities simply do not generate the level of patronage required for a commercial service to be viable, leading to the operators withdrawing them. Local Transport Authorities (such as Suffolk County Council) can contract with bus companies to keep services running, but this is a discretionary function for which budgets have traditionally been low and subject to cuts over time.

Going back 25+ years there were hourly, commercially operated routes from Orford via Butley and Bawdsey via Hollesley into Woodbridge and Ipswich. Passenger numbers declined over time and these routes were replaced by contracted offerings but these too saw passengers fall off to the point that when the local bus budget was cut again in 2019 many journeys had to be removed.

As an example from then, the contract which provided services 62 (Blaxhall - Tunstall - Campsea Ashe - Hacheston - Parham - Framlingham - Easton - Wickham Market - Woodbridge OR Saxmundham - Rendham - Sweffling - Framlingham - Parham - Easton - Wickham Market (each running three days per week)) and 71 (Sudbourne - Orford - Chillesford - Hollesley - Sutton Heath - Melton – Woodbridge) was only averaging 9 return passengers per day across 6 journeys – so 1½ passengers per trip.

The commuter and college-time journey from Orford and Hollesley was preserved by incorporating it into a different contract but it was not possible to preserve every trip as a scheduled journey.

Since that time we have been receiving additional funding from the Department for Transport to use on Bus Services and have made a portion of each grant available for service improvements or new routes suggested by the Community. As a direct result of ideas generated jointly by Woodbridge Town Council and Melton and Sutton Heath Parish Councils we increased the number of journeys from Sutton Heath into Woodbridge from last September and are considering further enhancements should the funding stream continue. This service also links Sutton Hoo with Melton station while the extended Park & Ride service from Rendlesham and Bromeswell offers further links to the station as well as continuing all the way into Ipswich.

Your suggestion for extending the Katch service is unfortunately not practical – the route is operated by CATS using a single minibus and would require at least 1 extra vehicle to be able to cover more territory. However, every resident also has access to the Connecting Communities service which is also operated by CATS for pre-booked travel the same as Katch. This is not restricted to a fixed route so can offer a door-to-door service. The only potential drawbacks to the service are that it does not accept concessionary bus passes and requires travel to be booked at least 24 hours in advance. Acceptance of passes on Katch is funded by East Suffolk District Council (with the rest of the operating costs covered by our DfT money) and the need to

pre-book does not seem to dissuade users of that service. Connecting Communities *is* there for everyone to use.

We have made several attempts to increase usage of the route over the years, including leaflet drops to every household on the peninsula and trialling dedicated timetabled journeys from Hollesley – but despite 35+ people attending a meeting saying they would use that service, nobody did.

Finally, a dedicated service from Sutton Hoo to both Melton and Woodbridge stations is currently being considered. This has been designed following conversations between CATS, the team at Sutton Hoo, SCC councillors both past and present and the parish councils. The timetable has been agreed and we are just looking to see how the route can be funded.

It is not practical to take a normal bus into the site on a regular basis – the operators generally prefer not to go into car parks, even with permission from the landowner, and there is no space for a dedicated bus turning area or any footway that could be converted into a safe and accessible bus stop. CATS are happy to go in though as they will use a vehicle fitted with a lift that can be used if required. We are looking into options for improving the stops on the road outside the site, but for these to be promoted more as an option would require the National Trust to construct a proper footway along the access road.'

Misc

- Dealt with questions from Suffolk Heath on fire safety and arranged emptying of bottle bank
- Arranged for broken electrical street sign to be removed at Sutton Heath
- Helped Bawdsey PC report and deal with an exposure of large piece of metal at the quay carpark
- Many many emails about failed bin collections - helped residents to report and in severe cases flagged to officers to fast track the issue
- Flagged car parking issues at Bawdsey Quay with Police – no reply
- Supporting Bromeswell residents over recent murder (on going police issue)

James Mallinder
Deben Ward - A voice for parishes and residents of the Peninsula