

Report from District Cllr. Sally Noble

Dear Clerks and Councillors,

Please find below the latest Parish Report. I have included all the official council reports as they are relevant to the whole ward.

It has obviously been a very difficult time since the storm. Many people have been affected, but it has been encouraging to see people coming together to help one another. I am still very busy trying to help residents across the ward access the help that they need. The council is in the process of collaborating all the relevant information and once this has been achieved, we can then begin to work out how best to deal with future crisis. There will be more details of this in the coming weeks.

I will also provide much more specific details of what I have been doing in the next report. At the moment, I am just working hard to support local residents as best I can.

October 2023 Parish Report East Suffolk Council GLI Group – Councillor Update

Businesses urged to have say in Explore Suffolk BID ballot

East Suffolk Council is urging local businesses to have their say in a ballot on the creation of a new 'Destination Business Improvement District' (BID), which includes parts of East Suffolk.

A ballot is being held by Locus Management Solutions Ltd to consider proposals for 'Explore Suffolk', which, in their words would seek "to connect businesses, partners and local authorities to establish a coherent tourism offer" and would see projects delivered over and above services already funded by councils. The BID is committing to champion the unique qualities of the South Suffolk area. This activity would be funded by a mandatory levy on businesses in the defined zone.

A Business Plan has been produced outlining key information about the proposal and all businesses entitled to vote should have received a statement with:

- an explanation for the arrangement of the ballot;
- an explanation of the regulations that allows the person to request a copy of the BID proposal;

- details of the name and address of the BID proposer.

If the ballot is carried, this business-led proposal will result in an additional 1.82% levy on business properties with a rateable value over £24,500. East Suffolk Council itself does not have a say in the process and has not been involved in the Advisory Board. But the Council is keen for businesses affected in East Suffolk to participate in the ballot, given the impact and requirement for them to fund the 'Explore Suffolk' BID.

GLI Cllr Vince Langdon-Morris, East Suffolk's Cabinet Member for Resources and Value for Money, said: "I urge business owners who have received these BIDballot papers and voting forms to study the business case and participate in the vote. The BID area covers part of our district and includes locations already well served by the Felixstowe BID and "The Suffolk Coast" Destination Management Organisation (DMO). It is important that those businesses affected by the proposals are clear on the requirements and expectations, and we urge them to have their say."

The ballot is taking place entirely by post and all votes must be returned by 5pm on Thursday 19 October 2023. If businesses entitled to vote have lost their ballot paper, then a replacement ballot paper can be obtained from Ipswich Borough Council. Information is available at: www.ipswich.gov.uk/BIDelections

Brownfield land grant to help pave way for waterfront regeneration

A Government grant worth more than £4.2million has been awarded to East Suffolk Council (ESC) to help transform brownfield land in Lowestoft into much needed future housing.

The £4,203,800 grant is part of the second phase of a £180m Brownfield Land Release Fund (BLRF) designed to unlock sites across the country to make way for more than 6,000 new homes. The funding will help cover the cost of land remediation at the former Sanyo and Survitec manufacturing sites located on the south side of Lake Lothing, Lowestoft, in an area known as Kirkley Waterfront.

The land was acquired by predecessor to ESC, Waveney District Council, in 2018, having stood vacant since 2009, and forms part of the Kirkley Waterfront and Sustainable Urban Neighbourhood scheme, which focuses on regenerating the area to provide housing and jobs for local people. The work will enable preparation for future development of plans which include the construction of 350 new homes at the former Sanyo and Survitec manufacturing sites.

GLI Cllr David Beavan, East Suffolk's Cabinet Member for Housing said: "This is good news. Lowestoft's industrial past can be transformed into much needed housing which is as affordable and as sustainable as we can make it.

"Record homelessness needs more housing, which is better on brownfield than greenfield sites. We just need funding for the tidal barrier now to allow this project to go full steam ahead."

For the most up to date information regarding East Suffolk Council, please visit:

www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk

