

# **District Cllrs Report For Hasketon Parish Council**



**January 2018**

From  
Cllr Colin Hedgley  
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**Response to Second Stage Consultation on the future management of off-street Car Parks in preparation for Civil Parking Enforcement, and next steps:** This paper identifies the off-street parking orders which need to be prepared ahead Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE) transferring from the police to the Suffolk local authorities .

The implementation of CPE is planned for April 2019 but there is some uncertainty from Central Government about the exact timing due to pressure on their legal resources due to Brexit. The off-street orders need to be amended in April 2018 for any changes that are desirable between now and April 2019 as there will be a freeze on any changes from April 2018 to April 2019 while the CPE legal work is being carried out.

**Amendment to Renovation Grant Policy – Introduction of Warm Homes Grant:** Suffolk Coastal District Council is the lead authority, on behalf of all the councils in Suffolk, in relation to programmes that help to alleviate fuel poverty, including bidding for and administering funding under the name of Warm Homes Healthy People.

SCDC and Suffolk County Council recently submitted a joint bid of £4.3m to National Grid's Warm Homes Fund, to operate a first time central heating programme for households in fuel poverty. The bid was successful and Cabinet is being asked to approve changes to the current policies to ensure the smooth rollout of the scheme.

**Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2018/19:** Each year, we are required to review our Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme. This report advises Cabinet about the conclusion of the 2017 annual review and the resultant proposals for the LCTRS scheme to take effect from 1 April 2018.

**Capital Programme 2018/19 to 2021/22:** Closely linked to the East Suffolk Business Plan, the Capital Programme is one of the key components of the Authority's Medium Term Financial Strategy. This report sets out the Council's Capital Programme for the financial years 2018/19 to 2021/22, including revisions to the 2017/18 programme.

The report includes the main principles applied to set the programme and provides details of the expenditure and financing for 2017/18 to 2021/22. Total Capital investment for the period is anticipated to be £43.45m, the largest for the council in recent years.

### **Other News**

**New Year – new challenge:** Obviously the key challenge for the 2018 will be the work to prepare for the creation of a new super district council.

We made history on 7 November, when Suffolk Coastal and Waveney became the first district councils in the country to successfully get the backing of the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, The Rt Hon Sajid Javid, for creating a new council in east Suffolk.

At this stage, he has said he is ‘minded to’ support our plans. But, as you would expect, work has already started to ensure the councils are in pole position to meet the challenging timetable of work, once we get the Secretary of State’s final decision.

A Member Programme Board has been created to oversee the progression of the creation of the new council and a number of topic specific Member Working Groups have been set up to assist it in its task.

The Member Programme Board is made up of leaders of both councils and councillors from Suffolk Coastal and Waveney, and will lead on making recommendations concerning the new council, such as the number of councillors, branding and signage, financial and governance arrangements.

The group will now meet regularly to ensure the necessary arrangements are in place for the creation of the new council in 2019.

Before he takes his final decision, the Secretary of State has announced that until 8 January 2018, those interested can make further representation to him, including making any suggested modifications to the proposals. He will then make his final decision, which will be subject to Parliamentary approval.

Anyone who wants to contribute to his consultation, can write to: The Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, Dept for Communities and Local Government, 4th Floor, Fry Building, 2 Marsham Street, London. SW1P 4DF

Or email: [sajid.javid@communities.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:sajid.javid@communities.gsi.gov.uk)

**Introduction of Garden Waste Collection Charging:** SCDC have made a decision to introduce a £43 a year charge for collecting garden waste next financial year (2018/19).

The reality is that Suffolk Coastal District Council has protected the ‘free’ collection of garden waste for as long as it was prudent for us to do so.

In 2015, we decided to maintain the ‘free’ garden waste collection service and to bear the cost of reduced Recycling Performance Payment support, despite the financial pressures on the council. However, at the time, we did recognise that this is discretionary service that we provide and we always said we would have to keep this decision under review.

Suffolk Coastal District Council is now under increasing pressure financially, with dwindling support from central Government. Next year (2018/19), we are faced with a budget gap of over £2.8 million.

Providing the organic waste collection and composting service currently costs Suffolk Coastal over £1.2 million a year. This cost has been exasperated by the £200,000 per year reduction in support for recycling organic waste previously provided by the county council.

Our East Suffolk Business Plan identifies the need for us to become increasingly financially-self sufficient in the future. As such, we took the difficult decision to join the vast majority of other local authorities in Suffolk and Norfolk in providing local people with the opportunity to pay for a garden waste collection service.

We would stress, this service will be entirely voluntary, with people having to ‘opt in’ and register to receive the service. Any funds raised from the service will be re-invested in providing services to local people and reducing our budget gap.

Suffolk Coastal remains committed to an ambitious programme of community-based and major capital investments, such as the current leisure redevelopment, in the coming years. We need to continue to identify strong income streams, if we are to protect frontline services and avoid passing the burden on to the council tax payer.

A timetable for introducing the charge for garden waste collection is currently being drawn up, including details of how and when people can join & pay, should they opt to use the service.

As soon as this detailed information is available, we will circulate it to you all, as well as issuing it to local residents.

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**New domestic abuse website launched:** A new website has been launched to support those affected by domestic abuse.

The Coastal Action Against Abuse (CAAA) website promotes the group incorporating professionals who work in partnership to raises public and professional awareness and understanding of the impact of domestic abuse on victims, their families and the wider community within Suffolk Coastal District.

The website signposts the public to local services and support in the area, links to national and local campaigns and increase awareness of types of abuse.

The launch of the new website coincided with the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, also known as White Ribbon Day on 25 November. Visit the website at [www.c-aaa.uk](http://www.c-aaa.uk)

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**If you have a natural Christmas tree this year**, any branches less than 1 ½ inches (4cm) in diameter can be recycled afterwards by cutting it up and placing it in the brown bin

ensuring that the lid of the bin can be fully closed. For more information about what you can and can't put in your bins, see: [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/waste/waste-collections-and-disposal](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/waste/waste-collections-and-disposal)

**Waste Offence:** Householders have been reminded they have a legal responsibility, or duty of care, to prevent their waste from being fly-tipped after a Saxmundham man pleaded guilty to a waste offence.

Perry Williams, of Mayflower Avenue, Saxmundham, appeared at Ipswich Magistrates Court on Tuesday, 28 November 2017, and pleaded guilty to an offence of failing to fulfil his duty of care towards household waste contrary to Section 34(2A) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 in March 2017 from his address.

The case was brought to court after twenty sacks of general, unsorted household waste which were found to have been fly-tipped on land at Bannocks Lane in Cransford, were examined and found to contain post addressed to Mr Williams' home at the time.

When interviewed at the Suffolk Coastal Norse depot by Council Officers, Mr Williams stated that he had allowed an unknown person to remove waste from his address in Saxmundham, and admitted that the waste found fly-tipped came from his property.

He also admitted failing to ask what was going to happen to the waste, failing to take any basic details of the identity of the person, and failing to check that the person was an authorised waste carrier.

Mr Williams plead guilty to breaching his Duty of Care towards his waste. The Court took into account Mr Williams' circumstances and ordered him to pay compensation of £100. Local people are asked to remember the "Scrap Code", to avoid being held responsible, and risk acquiring a criminal record, should their waste end up fly-tipped."

- **S: Suspect.** Beware of rogue waste carriers – reputable companies do not usually make direct approaches. **If in any doubt as to whether someone is a legitimate waste carrier, do not allow them to take your waste.**
- **C: Check.** Ask for their waste carrier registration details, and verify them by checking the online register or by calling **03708 506 506**. Always note down the registration number of the vehicle used to take your waste away.
- **R: Refuse** unsolicited offers to have any rubbish taken away. Always carry out your own research and choose who you wish to approach. Legitimate waste carriers are unlikely to seek business by going door-to-door.
- **A: Ask questions.** Always ask what exactly is going to happen to your rubbish and seek evidence that it is going to be disposed of appropriately. A legitimate, professional waste carrier who wants your business should not object to being asked reasonable questions.
- **P: Paperwork.** Make sure you get a proper receipt containing the written information for your waste. This should include what has been removed, and where it will be going. Make sure the Company or tradesman's details are included.

The Suffolk Waste Partnership has produced a video aimed at householders, emphasising the importance of the Duty of Care and how to do their bit to prevent their waste ending up fly-tipped by rogue waste carriers and avoid risking a fine of up to £5000:

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=a1X83ka\\_AqQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a1X83ka_AqQ)

If you see someone fly-tipping in Suffolk Coastal or Waveney, report it in confidence online at: [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/waste/fly-tipping/how-to-report-fly-tipping](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/waste/fly-tipping/how-to-report-fly-tipping) - or call Suffolk Coastal/Waveney on 01394 383789 / 01502 562111, email [environment@eastsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:environment@eastsuffolk.gov.uk)