

Framlingham Ward News - August / September 2023

Vince Langdon-Morris (Green District Councillor)

August has been quiet, but East Suffolk Council activities are really picking up in early September.

Framlingham: Barclays Bank. I spoke with a regional bank official this week, who told me that a 'pop-up bank' is now established in the Crown Hotel. It will be open 3 ½ days a week for customers. He stated that the pop-up had had a busy first week. I will seek and share more information soon.

Wildflowers: After discussion with East Suffolk and Framlingham Town Councils it has been agreed to set up small wildflower growing patches across Framlingham. This will be done in conjunction with Fram Town Council (the sustainability grouping) and led by the Swift and Wildlife group.

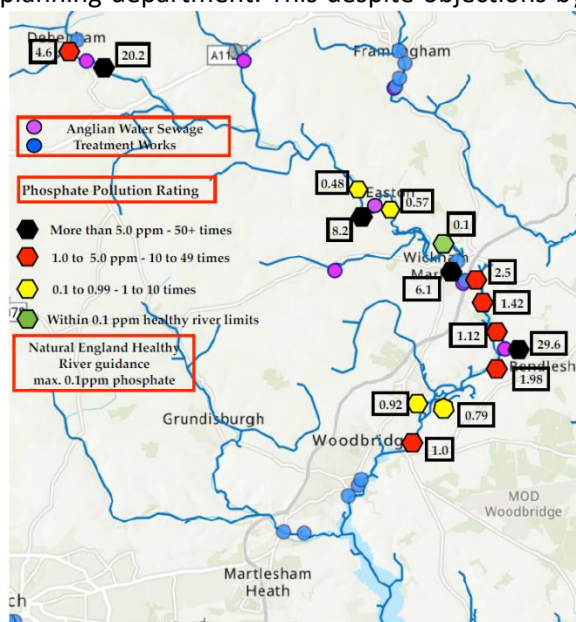
Housing: I met with Suffolk County Council highways officials to discuss a Section 278 survey, required to be done before any road alterations can be done to Victoria Mill Road. Depending on a pending appeal to the Secretary of State by the developer (to return from the current outline planning allowed for 35 new houses to the (rejected) 49 houses) this will hopefully be a while before it is started!

Brandeston: I'm working on supporting parish councillors, concerned about their local pub which was recently sold and altered to be a residential dwelling. An East Suffolk Enforcement Officer has visited the pub, I will follow up and report back soon.

Cretingham: Retrospective planning permission was granted for Corner Farm to change its farm building to commercial use by East Suffolk Council planning department. This despite objections by both residents and Fram councillors. We hope that the rules and regulations that pertain to the use of farm building as commercial units is adhered to in future.

Water Sampling: As many of you may notice effluent is again in the news. On 29th August changes were made to regulations for house building. Government has announced plans to alter existing EU law removing requirements of 'nutrient neutrality' across affected catchments in England. This basically means that polluters must demonstrate / mitigate the impact of future effluent discharges on the environment.

Phosphates: The map to the right demonstrates phosphate levels in the river Deben, as you can see it's not great.



This slide shows an E. Coli water sample done in Wickham Market on 11th July. The retired Professor of Biochemistry (who did this test) stated it was 3,500% above the maximum allowed in a watercourse 😞. I'm personally appalled that decades have gone by with our rivers being heavily polluted. We must start considering the impact of our actions on our environment and our future wellbeing!

Green / Liberal Democrat / Independent (GLI) Group News

Pylon plan not supported by Suffolk County Council. SCC is not supporting latest proposals by the National Grid to install 114 miles of electricity pylons across the county, as part of the "Norwich to

Tilbury” project. A number of objections have been raised about the 33 mile stretch which would run through Suffolk, which includes cabling under the Dedham Vale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. SCC is pressing for an offshore solution to be fully researched and considered.

Onshore facility proposal for Suffolk Coast: Suffolk County Council was disappointed to learn that the LionLink interconnector project from National Grid Ventures has identified an alternative landfall at Walberswick, with cable routing making its way to the north of Southwold. The Lionlink project aims to connect multiple offshore wind farms in the North Sea, instead of individual wind farms connecting one by one to the shore. The project is a joint venture between the UK and the Netherlands, supplying energy to both countries. The Council will study the details of the new proposals and will prepare its response to the National Grid’s second public consultation, which opens on 8 September.

2023 Tour of Britain Cycle Race: The world’s best cyclists will be taking to the roads of Suffolk on 7 September, including Tour de France champions. This fifth stage will start in Felixstowe at 10.45am and go through Kesgrave, Ipswich, Hadleigh, Needham Market, Stowmarket, Framlingham, Leiston and Woodbridge, finishing back in Felixstowe around 3.30pm. For route details / timings, please see plans for Stage 5 on the Tour of Britain website: <https://www.tourofbritain.co.uk/stages/stage-five/>

New Fire and Rescue Service Training Centre: The Suffolk Fire and Rescue Training Centre at Wattisham has had a £1.3m upgrade and was formally opened on 24 August. This includes a new tactical firefighting facility to simulate incidents firefighters may be faced with and help them prepare for the dangerous work they undertake in the community.

Social Worker of the Year Awards 2023: Suffolk County Council’s social workers and social care teams have been shortlisted for six awards at the annual Social Worker of the Year Awards. This is the only major national awards event for social work in England, attracting hundreds of entries every year and reaching millions of people with positive stories of outstanding social work. We are proud of our social workers, who work so hard to help people in often challenging circumstances. Winners will be announced at the awards ceremony in November this year.

Support for Ukrainian refugees moving to private rented accommodation: In May, SCC announced a one-off £2,000 support grant for Ukrainian refugees moving on from their host into their own accommodation. The Independent Living Payment is available to any Ukrainian refugees moving into private rented accommodation after 1 April 2023. Guests must have been living in Suffolk for a minimum of 2 months and be registered on the Suffolk Homes for Ukraine scheme to be eligible. This funding can be used for any associated housing costs, including furniture, moving costs or travel to work. The support can be used towards accommodation (furnished or unfurnished) and accommodation can be in Suffolk or out of county. Ukrainian guests can apply for the Independent Living Payment and completing the application form on the Suffolk County Council website: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/community-and-safety/communities/community-engagement/support-for-refugees/support-for-ukraine/ukraine-information-for-guests>

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Cost of Living help advice: <https://infolink.suffolk.gov.uk/kb5/suffolk/infolink/family.page?familychannel=6>

Benefits advice and support: <https://infolink.suffolk.gov.uk/kb5/suffolk/infolink/adult.page?adultchannel=0>