

## May/June 2023 Parish Report

### East Suffolk Council GLI Group – Councillor Update

From: Cllr. Julia Ewart – Kelsale & Yoxford

Sent to all Parishes 20/6/23

#### *The GLI Group are East Suffolk Council's New Administration*

At May's Full Council, elected members voted to install the GLI Group as the new administration of East Suffolk Council, replacing the previous Conservative majority. Councillor Caroline Topping was voted in as the new Leader of East Suffolk Council, becoming East Suffolk Council's first female Leader.

The GLI The Green, Liberal Democrat and Independent Councillors on East Suffolk Council formed a cross-party group called the 'GLI' Group after officially adopting an agreement on 16 May.

The Group's Leader, Beccles and Worlingham Councillor Caroline Topping, is now Leader of the Council and said: "I am pleased and humbled that they have elected me as the Leader of East Suffolk Council. In that role I would like to welcome all 55 Members who have been elected to represent our communities at East Suffolk Council".

#### *#ShakeltOut*

The #ShakeltOut campaign has been launched by the Suffolk Waste Partnership to encourage households in Suffolk to help improve recycling rates across the county by making sure black bin bags and other plastic sacks are not thrown in with recyclable materials.

The Partnership, made up of the county, district and borough councils in Suffolk, says more than a quarter (26%) of the materials in Suffolk's recycling bins in 2022/23 were not able to be processed as they were spoiled.

Items that contributed to spoiled recycling collections included:

- Materials that were not clean and dry, or contained food and drink residue
- Rubbish sacks or plastic bags containing recycling
- Non-recyclable items, such as nappies and food waste

Plastic bags and rubbish sacks are a particular problem – recycling handlers can't see what's inside them and they are often full of rubbish or other non-recyclable items.

For more information, visit: [www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk/shake-it-out](http://www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk/shake-it-out)

#### *UK Shared Prosperity Fund*

East Suffolk Council has been allocated £2.75m to invest across two and a half years (2022/23 - 24/25) in initiatives that will address inequality and contribute to levelling up. This is in addition to the £3.75m Multiply element of the UKSPF, which Suffolk County Council can apply for to support adult numeracy across the county. The funding can only be unlocked upon submission of an Investment Plan which is signed off by both the council and the government. To develop the East Suffolk Investment Plan, the council gathered stakeholder input through a public survey to invite local stakeholders to give their views on what are the most pressing local challenges that need to be addressed, and the projects and initiatives that could best address them. This input was combined with data about the local area and existing funding, the Government criteria and wider strategic priorities to inform the development of the East Suffolk investment plan. East Suffolk Council received official approval from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities for our UKSPF Investment Plan on 5 December 2022.

East Suffolk Council have launched a series of grant schemes as part of our eight key programmes, including: Events, Art and Culture Grant; East Suffolk Pantries Grant and the Move to Net Zero Grant. There are multiple rounds of applications for these grants; for example, the East Suffolk Pantries Grant Scheme is a three-year programme which aims to help people in need to access affordable food in their local community. The pantries will provide a welcoming space, similar to a shop, where people can pay a subscription of less than £5 per week and receive food worth at least £15 in return. Pantries can also provide additional support, signposting to other local services and help to reduce social isolation.

Following a successful first round, the second round of funding applications is now open. Grants of up to £4,500 are available and applications close on **30 June, 2023**.

For more information, visit: [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/business/uk-shared-prosperity-fund](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/business/uk-shared-prosperity-fund)

***I have articulated my concern in respect of the short time frame and witness to many of the funding opportunities being out of time for the villages. I will keep a tighter handle on these in the future and not see them wasted in the ward.***

#### **East Suffolk Council Apprenticeship Opportunities**

East Suffolk Council is offering the chance for people to enhance their skills and boost their career ambitions with the return of its successful apprenticeship scheme.

Apprenticeships provide the opportunity to gain workplace experience, high quality training, and a recognised qualification, while in paid employment. This year, the successful scheme, which has seen over 80% of participants stay beyond their apprenticeship, has nine new opportunities available in a number of teams, including Legal, ICT, Climate Change and Sustainability, Customer Services, Finance, HR, Asset Management, Housing and Procurement. Applications close on **25 June, 2023** and successful applicants start in September.

For more information, visit: [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/news/east-suffolk-council-apprenticeship-jobs](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/news/east-suffolk-council-apprenticeship-jobs)

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#### **On A Personal Note**

Training has continued at an intense level. I have been appointed VC to Planning North and VC to Community Health. I have a place on the Energy team and the Environment group. My facebook page shares every weeks activity.

My case work is varied, broadly across the whole ward and reflects a confidence in my getting things done. Using the skills of my Community worker we put on a transport programme for teens aged 13-17 using the enabling fund, giving them the opportunity to attend the First Light Festival. The response appreciated, but needs reworking for local children.

With respect to community health and well being I have stepped in to support the families effected by the loss of Saxmundham Free School. With no obvious support from SCC and the LGA I worked as the glue between schools, families and the crisis itself. I have yet to solve the nursery school issue where wrap around back up is required, but that is work in progress and will come to a solution in July as it has to have an outcome ready for next term.

I'm very aware that we have four Drs. Surgeries in my ward that my residents attend. I've got in contact with each one and have had a good meeting with Dr. John Havard in Saxmundham to discuss his surgery needs in Saxmundham on the Kelsale site.

*Ubbeston Parish Council*

Similarly I'm in contact with all junior schools and await appointments with Yoxford and Bramfield to see what support we can give at this difficult time.

For the most up to date information regarding East Suffolk Council, please visit: **[www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk)**

Thank you for your great enthusiasm and many messages with queries and new work. I feel that all is in hand or in the eye of East Suffolk Council - who are incredibly supportive.

**Julia Ewart**

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