



Cllr Stephen Burroughes – September 2017

- **EAST SUFFOLK COMMERCIAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY**

In November 2015, we approved the first Joint East Suffolk Business Plan 2015 – 2023. The Commercial Investment Strategy is intended to play an important part in delivering the objective of Financial Self Sufficiency by providing a robust and viable framework for the acquisition of commercial asset investments and to enable the councils to trade commercially for net income. It is recommended that a Local Authority Trading Company, wholly owned by the councils, is created. The draft strategy outlines some principles in respect of Commercial Investment and a proposed approach. Development of this approach needs to be undertaken in a range of areas, and all elements would benefit from external review and advice. It is proposed that external specialist advice be engaged as a key next step in this work, particularly legal advice in respect of company formation, and property investment advice in respect of portfolio development, risk management, and market awareness.

- **EAST SUFFOLK FOOD AND HEALTH AND SAFETY SERVICE PLAN**

The councils are required to produce a Food and Health and Safety Service Plan by the Food Standards Agency (FSA) and the Health and Safety Executive (HSE). This year's Service Plan includes information on the Councils' performance in meeting targets, sets out in the Service Plan for 2016/17, and the Food and Health and Safety Service Plan for 2017/18. Please visit the council's website to download this paper.

- **WORK STARTING ON DEBEN LEISURE CENTRE**

Work is getting underway to transform Deben Pool into an exciting, modern leisure centre. The project to reinvent the leisure centre is set to cost over £3 million as part of Suffolk Coastal's plans to invest in its leisure centres to encourage more people to become fit and active.

Deben Pool closed at 10pm on Thursday 31 August, with work to starting from Monday 4 September for a 10 month period to transform the facility into a state-of-the-art leisure centre. The new leisure centre has been designed with the Council's leisure development partner, Pulse Fitness and operators Places for People Leisure and includes a new, spacious gym, featuring modern equipment and the pool area will feature a new health suite with a steam room, sauna and ice room.

The plans also include the addition of a new floor to be added to the front of the building, with purpose built family changing areas and separate changing facilities for use by schools and the provision of two studios, one to incorporate a spin room and the other for fitness classes, which will also be available for community hire. Suffolk Coastal's investment of £2.5 million in the new leisure centre has been boosted by £500,000 in Sport England National Lottery Funding. The work to develop the leisure centre is part of the Council's five year programme to improve leisure facilities for the district and to encourage more people to become more active.

All current members at Deben have now been contacted by Places for People Leisure regarding their membership during the closure period. The full closure of Deben means that during this time our operators, Places for People Leisure will be relocating as many staff as possible. The new facility opening next summer will create more job opportunities, with people being recruited 2-3 months prior to opening. During the

refurbishment work there will be some loss of car parking, reducing by 27 spaces (23 in front of the Community Hall and 4 spaces elsewhere in Station Road car park) and there will be no access to the front and left-hand side of the leisure centre.

- **DID YOU SEE THE TOUR?**

A series of events were organised to welcome the OVO Energy Tour of Britain to the area. Stage Six of the Tour arrived in Suffolk in Newmarket and finished in Aldeburgh on Friday 8 September, with live coverage of the whole race on ITV4.

The [route](#) arrived in Suffolk Coastal at Dennington and followed onto Framlingham Castle, Wickham Market, Grundisburgh, past Kesgrave High School, through Woodbridge and on to our Council Offices in Melton. It then travelled through Rendlesham, past Snape Maltings and finally finished on Aldeburgh's high street, outside the Golden Galleon at 3pm. Live coverage of the whole race was screened on the Market Hill at Wickham Market, as well as being a pop up bar, refreshments, food and entertainments throughout the day. It was a great success.

- **HAVE YOUR SAY ON DOG CONTROLS**

The public is being urged to have their say on proposed changes to dog controls in the district to introduce Public Space Protection Orders. Currently, there are several bye-laws, enactments and a local 'order' in the Suffolk Coastal District which impose requirements on dog owners. As well as updating controls, PSPOs also provide a more effective and efficient way of dealing with these types of offence through the issue of a Fixed Penalty Notice.

Earlier this year, Suffolk Coastal originally contacted Town and Parish Councils to ask for their views. Now, we are consulting with the public on the proposal to find out their views

The proposed Public Space Protection Orders (which largely reflect what is currently in place) include:

- Excluding dogs from designated areas of Aldeburgh beach from May to September – These controls already existed and are being translated into a PSPO
- Excluding dogs from designated areas of Felixstowe beach from May to September – These controls already exist but there is a slight change to the designated area
- Making it an offence not to clear up after your dog if it fouls in any open space in Suffolk Coastal – These controls already exist and are being translated into a PSPO

One of the areas where Suffolk Coastal wants to explore public opinion is a wider set of controls relating to dogs on public land such as:

- Keeping dogs on a lead on the highway and roadside footpaths and verges, along with pedestrianised urban areas, sports grounds, cemeteries, churchyards, burial grounds and allotments – These are new controls to address nuisance dogs where they may cause public safety issues close to the highway or public health issues in allotments

- Excluding dogs from all fenced and gated children’s play areas – This is a new proposal to protect child safety and health
- Dogs to be kept on leads in a designated area south of Shingle Street from May to September – This is a new proposal to protect ground nesting birds in a specified area and will only apply during the nesting season
- Keeping dogs on a lead in the designated area at Landguard Point Nature Reserve – These are new controls amongst other things to protect ground nesting birds and other wildlife in the nature reserve

The changes are being made to the dog controls to ensure they are up to date to reflect today’s requirements and enable the use of Fixed Penalty Notices to help us deal more effectively with offenders. This isn’t about banning dogs everywhere. It’s about replacing the existing laws to protect specific places where problems have been raised, with a more effective way of ensuring people control nuisance dogs. For instance the new proposals for Shingle Street and Landguard Point Nature Reserve are to protect the ground nesting birds.

The vast majority of dog owners exercise their pets in a responsible manner, but we need to make sure we have measures in place to take action against those who do not. While there are some significant changes in some areas, there are only minor changes in others and some of the controls are staying the same, so we would ask that everyone read the proposals in detail. Ultimately we want to ensure everyone can enjoy our public spaces, including dog owners, without people being bothered by nuisance dogs, so the proposed changes need to reflect a fair balance.

To take part in the consultation, visit: www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/environment/environmental-protection/animals/dog-control/public-space-protection-orders

If you wish to comment on these proposed new Public Space Protection Orders, please do so by emailing: environment@eastsuffolk.gov.uk

Or in writing to: PSPO Consultation, c/o Environmental Protection, Suffolk Coastal District Council, East Suffolk House, Station Road, Melton, Suffolk, IP12 1RT. **Comments to reach us by Friday 22 September.**

• **HELP PLAN FUTURE DEVELOPMENT**

Suffolk Coastal residents are being asked for their views on a draft plan, which will shape where residential and commercial development could be located during the next 20 years. The 10-week consultation was launched in mid-August on the draft Local Plan for Suffolk Coastal which, when finalised, will be used as a guide for future planning decisions and highlights areas within the district which have the potential for growth. The draft document is presented in two parts. Part 1 has been prepared in conjunction with Ipswich Borough Council to identify the strategic cross boundary issues affecting the two local authorities. Part 2 focus on issues specific to Suffolk Coastal.

The consultation closes on Monday 30 October.

A series of public exhibitions have given an opportunity to discuss the draft Local Plan with Planning Officers. Please see remaining dates and venues below:

- Monday 11 September (4pm - 7:30pm) – Yoxford Village Hall (Main Hall)
- Thursday 14 September (4pm – 7:30pm) – Tower Hall, Rushmere St Andrew
- Monday 18 September (4pm – 7:30pm) – Felixstowe Town Hall (Council Chamber)
- Tuesday 26 September (4pm – 7:30pm) – East Suffolk House (Deben Room), Melton
- Wednesday 27 September (4pm – 7:30pm) Wenhaston Village Hall
- Monday 2 October (4pm – 7:30pm) Kirton Recreation Ground (The Pavilion)
- Wednesday 11 October (4pm – 7:30pm) Riverside Centre, Stratford St Andrew

Copies of the consultation document, Sustainability Appraisal documents and evidence base documents are available on the Council's website at: www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/planning/local-plans/suffolk-coastal-local-plan/local-plan-review/

Any comments email to suffolkcoastallocalplan@eastsuffolk.gov.uk or send a letter to Planning Policy & Delivery Team, East Suffolk House, Station Road, Melton, Woodbridge, IP12 1RT.

For further information or to ask questions etc. I can be contacted at:
stephen.burroughes@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk

Cllr Stephen Burroughes

District Councillor for Peasenhall & Yoxford Ward
Suffolk Coastal District Council