

# Parish Report – November 2021

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## COVID-19

Latest SCC information is available here: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Latest Government advice is available here: [www.gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

## Full Council – Motion and Decisions

The Suffolk County Council met for a Full Council meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> October 2021. Our Group proposed a motion to support the Local Electricity Bill, to help proportion local energy supplier's costs, making local electricity cheaper and more reliable. The motion was passed unanimously. Details of the motion can be found here: <https://powerforpeople.org.uk/local-electricity-bill-briefing-for-councillors>

The Conservatives forwarded a motion to condemn Insulate Britain, which was passed with the following vote: 41 For, 9 Against, 7 Abstained.

## Cabinet Meeting – 12<sup>th</sup> October

On the 12<sup>th</sup> October, the Cabinet and Councillors met to discuss the following two matters: Recommendations highlighted in the Suffolk Local Access Forum Annual Report 2020/21, and to vote on submitting the Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP), in relation to the Council's Bus Back Better Strategy. Summary of the main decisions are below:

The Cabinet accepted the Suffolk Local Access Forum Annual Report 2020/21 and noted the report's recommendations and the action that the Council was taking to address the recommendations.

### Bus Back Better: Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) Approved

The Cabinet approved the new Bus Service Improvement Plan, as part of their new £50m Bus Back Better strategy – aimed at rejuvenating Suffolk's bus service, in particular isolated areas of rural Suffolk. Our Group supports the essential commitment needed to help connect rural communities.

Bus Back Better aims at making bus services cheaper, more reliable, and carbon efficient. All proposals of the BSIP that were passed by Cabinet can be viewed here:

[https://committeeminutes.suffolk.gov.uk/DocSetPage.aspx?MeetingTitle=\(12-10-2021\),%20The%20Cabinet](https://committeeminutes.suffolk.gov.uk/DocSetPage.aspx?MeetingTitle=(12-10-2021),%20The%20Cabinet)

### **Suffolk Schools to Reintroduce Face Coverings**

On Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October, the Directors of Public Health, and Children and Young People Services, released a statement notifying us that face coverings are to be reintroduced into schools from 1<sup>st</sup> November.

This is due to the rising COVID cases in Suffolk, and therefore staff and students will have to wear face coverings in communal areas, outside of the classroom, unless exempt for medical reasons. Visitation will also be restricted to essential visits. A further review on its effectiveness will commence 15<sup>th</sup> November.

### **Sizewell C: Government Announce Support & New Funding Strategy**

On the 15<sup>th</sup> October, Suffolk County Council announced their support for Sizewell C, and are taking up 'important concerns' to the Secretary of State. In addition, on 26<sup>th</sup> October, Business and Energy Secretary, Kwasi Kwarteng, announced a new government strategy for funding the nuclear power project in Sizewell. The project so far has been heavily contentious, suffering from delays and planning concerns, as well as overflowing costs.

Our Group has abhorrently rejected this strategy, and severely recommends that the Government reconsiders before it puts the burden of cost onto our local communities, and instead looks into investing in cleaner, cheaper, and quicker forms of renewable energy available to Suffolk.

**REVIEW OF HGV ROUTES;** all parish councils will be consulted but any comments from the public should be included in your response.

**A14 JUNCTION.** Following the response from highways I have asked them to look again and have sent photos of other incidents . I have again contacted Highways England. Mark Lambert.

I am pleased to see that at last work will be done at the culvert.

**PROPOSED NEW WEST SUFFOLK HOSPITAL;** I have sent details of public meetings to consider the new hospital plans.

