

Parish Report –April 2023

Councillor: **PENNY OTTON**

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For information on local support during the Cost-of-Living Crisis, visit:

www.suffolk.gov.uk/CostOfLiving

For information on supporting Ukrainian refugees in Suffolk, email:

refugeesupport@suffolk.gov.uk or ukrainesupport@communityactionsuffolk.org.uk

GLI Motion Voted In: New Chamber Recommit to Net Zero and Declare Climate Crisis

At Full Council, last month the GLI Group proposed a motion for SCC to recommit to its declaration to be Net Zero by 2030. And declare a climate emergency. The original declaration, made in 2019. Since then, we have had an election which means 31 Cllrs have yet to formally commit themselves to Net Zero by 2030. In January, it was announced in the Carbon Budget that SCC is not on track to achieve Net Zero by 2030. In proposing the motion, we should prioritise building a clearer roadmap to protecting our environment. The motion was passed almost unanimously, with 2 Conservative Cllrs abstaining.

New Woman's Flag up in SCC

Women's History Month was celebrated throughout March, with International Women's Day being on 8th March. Last year, GLI Spokesperson for Women, Cllr Caroline Page, wrote to Suffolk County Council, asking that them to purchase a Suffragette Flag to fly proudly in celebrating a women's **story**.

NEW FIRE AND POLICE STATION IN STOWMARKET; this was opened in March

THURSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE; Suffolk county council is to do some further fire safety work on the main building; I have been reassured that this is to protect the building AND THAT THERE IS NOT current danger to pupils and staff. They are also installing better security gates and fencing at the Beyton campus.

SPEEDING DATA; I believe you had a vehicle recognition camera in Beyton ? but I did not get sent the report ; did you?

A14 WORK; now this has started is there anyone checking the increase in traffic through the village?

Cabinet Meeting (21st March)

The Cabinet agreed an additional £32m investment to increase school provision in the county. With the new funding, 11 new schools will be built, as well as further maintenance and expansion of current schools. Our Group welcomes additional support and will ensure there is a thorough process to the development and planning of new infrastructure.

SEND Report: Update

The Government's assessment of the SEND services progress in Suffolk has been described as 'reassuring' after adopting all recommendations given in the Council's damning report back in 2021. This comes as recent news from SCC said they have hired a Special Advisor for SEND Services, to support existing improvements. We will ensure via the Education Scrutiny Committee that this process is rigorously tested.

Homes for Ukraine: SCC Commit to More Money

Suffolk County Council has announced additional financial support for household homing Ukrainian refugees. Those who have homed a Ukrainian refugee for a minimum of 6 months will receive an additional £150 per month (in addition to the £350 monthly payment, which will rise to £500 after guests have stayed 12 months). However, once the £500 monthly payment has been received, the council will stop its additional funding.

For more information, please visit: www.suffolk.gov.uk/ukraine

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Website - [Suffolk Green, Liberal Democrat and Independent Group – The GLI Group at Suffolk County Council \(suffolkgli.wordpress.com\)](http://SuffolkGreenLiberalDemocratandIndependentGroup-TheGLIGroupatSuffolkCountyCouncil.suffolkgli.wordpress.com)