# Parish Report – DEC 2023

Penny.otton@suffolk.gov.uk

07545423847

Councillor
Penny Otton
Thedwastre South

#### FLOODING!!!

Like everyone else this was probably the worst we have seen. The clean up will now begin with SCC and Midsuffolk cleaning the roads and debris. Thanks to all you helped those in trouble.

I have sent details of how SCC is dealing with areas worst hit, and how anyone effected can claim £500 to help the costs, There is also money available to help householders do work to prevent flooding in the future. I am working with Beyton about the flooding of Thurston road.

My group are putting a motion to full council this month asking for more work and investment in flood prevention

## Flooding Investigations and Repairs

Following the recent Storm Babet flooding around the county, Suffolk County Council teams have pumped away 4.7m litres of water, cleared 8,412 drains of storm debris and removed over 100 trees blocking roads. In addition to this, as the lead local flood authority, Suffolk County Council has a duty to investigate the causes of flooding and take action to prevent future floods, and have announced that £1m will be spent on investigating the Storm Babet flooding and improving the county's resilience for further storms and excess rainfall. Additionally, it will be administering the funding recently announced by the government whereby owners of flooded properties are able to apply for up to £5,000 to protect their homes and business from future flooding. Details of how to apply will be shared once they are known..

#### Extra £10m Investment in Residential Roads

At Cabinet on Tuesday 7 November, we heard the details of the council's additional £10m investment in resurfacing urban and residential roads, which was announced in May after the local elections. The council plans to use reporting of poor road surfacing on quieter residential roads and cul de sacs where residents live to plot a programme of repairs from now until the end of March 2025. My group also had a recent meeting with the council's new contractor for highways to discuss how works would be undertaken in future. The council's new highways contractor is called Milestone, and the new contract began on 1 October 2023.

**A14 SLIP ROAD**, met with highways and beyton pc to see if there can be a STOP sign rather than give way. There have been several accidents there.

**GRITTING**; important to report any missed roads

# **New Highways Contract for Suffolk Roads**

At Scrutiny Committee on 23 November my group had the opportunity to examine the new Highways contract with Milestone, which began on 1 October 2023. The contract promises better communication with councillors and Suffolk residents, and contains incentives for the new contractor to work efficiently – for example, undertaking other works needed in the same geographical area when they are called out. The committee agreed to review the performance of the contract in 12 months.

#### **Suffolk Adult Care Rated Good**

Suffolk County Council's adult social services were inspected by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) in August and September, and the judgement is that services are good,. Areas for improvement included equity in experiences and outcomes, and gaps in dementia and nursing care provision. Delays in getting through to the Customer First phoneline – the main first point of contact for social care – were also highlighted for improvement.

VERY BEST WISHES FOR 2004 AND WISHING YOU ALL A HAPPY CHRISTMAS

### Follow us on:

Twitter - Suffolk Green, Lib Dem & Independent Group (@SuffolkGLI) / Twitter

Instagram - <a href="https://www.instagram.com/suffolkgli\_group/">https://www.instagram.com/suffolkgli\_group/</a>

Facebook - Suffolk GLI - Green, Liberal Democrat & Independent Group | Facebook

**Website** - <u>Suffolk Green, Liberal Democrat and Independent Group – The GLI Group at Suffolk County Council (suffolkgli.wordpress.com)</u>

Cost of Living help and 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