

# COASTLINE

The Newsletter of Suffolk Coastal District Council

Issue 40, Summer 2009

## **Innovation hub set to create jobs**

A state-of-the-art £5.3 million Innovation Hub is set to be built at BT's Adastral Park in Martlesham, thanks to a partnership involving Suffolk Coastal.

The new facility would provide 20,000 square feet of workspace for small businesses in the Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) sector, alongside support facilities to help them grow and bring new products to market.

“This exciting new scheme could mean 200 new jobs in the hi-tech ICT sector. We have backed the Innovation Hub with £100,000 as it is a proven way to stimulate new businesses by offering space and support, and where better for such a facility than next to BT, a world leader in ICT,” said Councillor Ray Herring, Leader of Suffolk Coastal.

The project is supported by the East of England Development Agency (EEDA) and fellow partners BT, who will donate the land.

Other funding partners of the project include Suffolk County Council, Suffolk Coastal and the Haven Gateway Partnership.

Tenants of the Innovation Hub would have access to BT's on-site facilities including meeting rooms, wireless internet connection, restaurants and sports facilities.

“The Innovation Hub would provide the right environment where ambitious and innovative small or medium sized businesses can grow alongside a successful multinational company, like BT in this case,” said Paul May, EEDA’s executive director of innovation.

## **Melton Hill is the Gateway to choice**

Suffolk Coastal has linked up with six other councils for Gateway to Homechoice, which gives people on housing waiting lists the chance to bid for available council or housing association homes in any of the included areas.

Suffolk Coastal’s housing waiting list is now being managed at the Council’s Woodbridge offices.

To contact the Gateway to Homechoice team, find out more about choice-based lettings or register for the scheme, call 01394 444822, email [homechoice@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk](mailto:homechoice@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk), visit the Melton Hill offices or visit [www.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/yourhome/housing/cbl](http://www.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/yourhome/housing/cbl) or [www.gatewaytohomechoice.org.uk](http://www.gatewaytohomechoice.org.uk)

## **No cash is no problem when parking in Woodbridge**

The frustration of having no change to pay for parking, or being penalised for running late, could be a thing of the past in Suffolk Coastal, with people now able to pay for parking by credit or debit card using their mobile phones.

“The RingGo system is already being used very successfully by thousands of people across the country, and it will give our car park users a wider range of payment options and the ability to top up their ticket over the phone if they are running late,” said Councillor Andy Smith, Cabinet Member responsible for car parking.

The system is being tested out at Woodbridge’s town centre car parks, alongside the pay and display system, and if popular with customers it could extend to other Suffolk Coastal car parks across the district.

You can register for the scheme in advance or wait until you are parked.

Customers calling 01394 642645 will be asked to provide information about their car and their card details, along with the length of time they want to stay and the four-digit code number of their chosen car park.

Using RingGo costs 20 pence on top of the normal car park charge, plus any call cost, and any requested warning texts cost 10 pence.

Customers can register on [www.myringgo.com/register](http://www.myringgo.com/register)

There are no security worries for people as their details are held securely only on RinGo’s computer, not on their mobile phones.

Other good news for motorists is that throughout the summer, Suffolk Coastal is offering free parking at its Wireless Green car park in Felixstowe for visitors to the resort. Shoppers can also park for free on Saturdays at the Melton Hill offices.

## **Doreen honoured by Queen**

The Queen's birthday honours list announced in June saw Councillor Doreen Savage awarded a MBE (Members of the Order of the British Empire) for her services to local government.

Councillor Savage is currently Suffolk Coastal's Cabinet Member for Customers and Partners, and has previously been Chairman of Suffolk Coastal and also Mayor of Felixstowe.

## **Heart attack review must look at geography**

The review of heart attack services in Suffolk must take account of rural realities, particularly in Suffolk Coastal, and its results must be put out to public consultation.

Professor Roger Boyle, national director for heart disease and stroke, is urgently reviewing NHS Suffolk plans to send local patients for specialist treatment to hospitals at Basildon, Norwich and Papworth.

“As Prof Boyle wrote in his Mending Hearts and Brains report, for heart attacks ‘treatment is a race against time’. Our very real concern is that because of the rural nature of our district, significant hurdles will be put in place in that race for our residents to get treatment within the 150 minutes target time,” said Councillor Sherrie Green, Cabinet Member for Community Health, who recently met Prof Boyle to explain the special needs of the district.

Primary percutaneous coronary intervention can prevent future heart attacks in about one-quarter of all those who have suffered a coronary and help save a significant number of lives, but Ipswich Hospital does not offer this specialised treatment which involves opening up blocked or narrowed coronary arteries.

“I hope Prof Boyle’s review will also throw light on why our PCT appears not to want to offer these specialist services in Suffolk. I hope both he and the PCT will ensure there is a proper public consultation on the future of heart attack services in our county,” added Cllr Green.

Suffolk PCT will report back about the review when it has stands at two community meetings arranged by Ipswich Hospital, which has arranged the meetings to consult the public about its own plans for the next five years. The two meetings in our district are at Woodbridge Community Centre on Monday, July 20 from 3pm and Felixstowe Leisure Centre on Saturday, August 1 from 11.30am.

- If you have previously suffered a heart attack or want to avoid long-term health problems, there are activities on offer.

The Council, DC Leisure and NHS Suffolk has linked up to offer a 12 week Exercise Referral Scheme, which sees a fitness instructor based at Felixstowe Leisure Centre, Deben Pool and Leiston Leisure Centre draw up a tailored supervised programme of physical activity.

## **Tell the minister what you think**

The Boundary Committee for England (BCE) was due to publish on July 15 its final recommendations to the Government for the future shape of local councils in Suffolk.

The BCE proposals were originally going to Hazel Blears, but following her resignation the new Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government John Denham will be considering what to do next.

A final decision from Mr Denham is not expected mid-October, so please let him know what you think should happen in Suffolk, whether you would rather everything was left as it is, or if you agree with whatever the BCE's final recommendations are, or if you support Suffolk Coastal's preferred unitary option of an East Suffolk Council that includes Felixstowe, Kesgrave and Lowestoft, along with an Ipswich and a West Suffolk council.

Visit [www.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/yourcouncil/future](http://www.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/yourcouncil/future) for the latest news. You can write to John Denham, Department of Communities and Local Government, Eland House, Bressenden Place London SW1E 5DU or email [contactus@communities.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:contactus@communities.gsi.gov.uk)

## **We are in the top ten places to live**

The latest national survey of residents has placed Suffolk Coastal as the equal seventh best district in England with 92.1 per cent of local residents saying they were satisfied with it as a place to live.

Suffolk Coastal's residents also gave the Council the highest ranking in Suffolk, and 55th best out of 340 nationally, for satisfaction with their local council, and ranked it narrowly the second best in Suffolk for providing value for money services.

“This is the latest thumbs up for Suffolk Coastal for the way that we are working to maintain and improve the quality of life in our district, and because it reports the views of our residents it is probably the most important one,” said Councillor Doreen Savage, Cabinet Member for Customers and Partners.

“I think it is the combination of clear and locally relevant priorities set by councillors, with a committed workforce and a commitment to involve our customers in shaping our services, that is helping Suffolk Coastal deliver so successfully what our residents want and deserve – good, efficient services across our district,” added Cllr Savage.

## **Fun fair survey**

A survey about fun fairs in the district is being carried out by Suffolk Coastal to see if any improvements can be made. Visit [www.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/yourcouncil/haveyoursay](http://www.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/yourcouncil/haveyoursay) or pick up a copy from Aldeburgh and Felixstowe’s tourist information centres.

## **Blue Flag flying**

An urgent appeal to maintain Felixstowe South’s Blue Flag status proved successful after a European jury agreed that the flag can fly again this year following a technical problem with a sample taken for testing last summer.

## **Cue for screen action**

An estimated extra £22.5 million has been spent by film and TV productions in the East of England, and Suffolk Coastal’s partners, Screen East, is urging businesses to make their offices and warehouses available as possible locations – register for free by calling 01923 495051, emailing [locations@screeeast.co.uk](mailto:locations@screeeast.co.uk) or visiting [www.screeeast.co.uk](http://www.screeeast.co.uk).

The services of local firms are also needed so get in touch with Screen East and register on their facilities database.

## **Alde and Ore Futures – communities help plan**

A ground-breaking project is underway looking at all the issues facing the communities in the Alde and Ore estuary in the future.

Residents of the area's 19 town and parishes are being asked to play their part in drawing up an overall plan for the area.

“This is the first pilot project of the Suffolk Integrated Coastal Zone Management Initiative (ICZMI) which is bringing together all organisations and people with an interest in the lives of our coastal and estuary communities,” said Councillor Andy Smith, Suffolk Coastal's Deputy Leader.

“The ambitious goal is to take into account the wider social economic and environmental aspects of life in the communities. By involving a wide range of organisations and encouraging input from those who live or work there, we want to build a more robust basis for decisions to be made about prioritising actions and also identify potential funding opportunities” added Cllr Smith.

The detail of managing flooding and erosion risks will be lead by the Environment Agency through its Aldeburgh Coast and Estuary Strategy (ACES) which is working with this project.

The ICZMI recognises that our local coastal and estuary communities will have to address their proximity to the sea, rural isolation, poor transport links and the future impact that climate change will make on a soft eroding coastline.

Anyone in the Alde and Ore area that wants to find out more about the project or get involved can visit [www.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/yourdistrict/coast](http://www.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/yourdistrict/coast) or you can call 01394 444553 or email [bill.parker@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk](mailto:bill.parker@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk)

## **Coastal concerns are heard nationally**

Suffolk Coastal's case for a fresh approach to the problems facing our coastal communities has been heard at the very top levels in recent months, including a visit by the Government Minister with responsibility for coastal erosion and sustainable rural communities.

Huw Irranca-Davies visited Southwold and Felixstowe and met with representatives of local communities and action groups, as well as councillors and officers.

In June, the Council's Deputy Leader Councillor Andy Smith was invited to attend a Parliamentary sub-committee as one of only three council representatives from across the country.

On the same day his opinions were also sought by the Local Government Association and Government officials.

"I am very encouraged that we are now being sought out to give our experience and knowledge on a national stage, and that we have been able to explain in detail the issues facing coastal areas like ours, and the new approaches we have pioneered to working with local communities and with the Environment Agency to improve our defences," said Cllr Smith

## **Have your say on how your coast is managed**

A series of exhibitions are being held in July as part of a three-month consultation giving all local residents a chance to help shape the new Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) that will set the goals for the next 100 years from Felixstowe's Landguard Point up to Lowestoft Ness.

The new draft SMP has been split into seven sections covering seven different parts of the coastline. The exhibition for the Orford Ness to Bawdsey Manor is being held at Hollesley Village Hall on Thursday, July 16 from 2pm to 7pm, for Minsmere to Thorpeness, and Thorpeness to Orford Ness at Aldeburgh Church Hall on Friday, July 17 from 2pm to 7pm, and Felixstowe Ferry to Landguard Point at Felixstowe Town Hall on Saturday, July 18 from 10am to 2pm. People are welcome to attend and discuss any or all of the management options.

“The Suffolk SMP identifies the current situation with our coast and considers how we can best manage the risks of coastal flooding and erosion in the future. We need a plan to help us deal with and manage the changes that are already affecting our coast and the changes we anticipate occurring over the next 100 years,” said Councillor Andy Smith, Suffolk Coastal’s Deputy Leader and Chairman of the SMP Members Group.

“We need to involve as wide an audience as possible in the finalising of the SMP as we have to get an increased understanding of the future challenges and the options that can help maintain defences in a changing climate based on a realistic view of the limited funds available in the foreseeable future,” added Cllr Smith.

The SMP is being reviewed by Haskoning Ltd for Suffolk Coastal which is acting as lead for the Environment Agency and Waveney District Council who are all responsible for managing the coastline covered by the plan. Natural England and Suffolk County Council are also supporting the project.

As well as identifying the risks and how to reduce them, the SMP develops policies on how the shoreline should be managed, taking into account the social, financial and environmental costs, and the adverse impacts.

Four coastal defence options are available to the SMP and it has to agree a policy for each area based on the following four policy options:

- Hold the line – which means maintaining or improving existing defences
- Advance the line – which is building new defences in front of the existing ones
- Managed realignment – which allows the shoreline to retreat in a controlled or managed way, either because that is actually the best approach for some stretches, or in others because the benefits of protection are clearly out of scale with the financial costs
- No active intervention – which involves no investment or commitment to providing or maintaining defences.

“There needs to be more joined-up planning of coastal management. This extends beyond just making sure that defending one area does not damage another, to take a much wider view about the whole coastal area and the communities and economy that it supports.

“A new SMP will be an important part of the process making sure that future decisions are all linked to an agreed set of goals, which will help prioritising of spending.

“Getting all the relevant organisations to work together is a major step forward, but equally important is the involvement of and ownership by our coastal communities in the final version of the SMP,” added Cllr Smith.

Detailed information can be found on [www.suffolksmp2.org.uk](http://www.suffolksmp2.org.uk) where there is also an online questionnaire. Comments should be made by September 30.

- In October consultation will start about the Essex SMP which covers the Orwell Shore from Landguard Fort to Ipswich - see next *Coastline* for details.

## **Strategy has future of district at its core**

Suffolk Coastal is nearing agreement on the latest stage of the Core Strategy that forms the key part of its Local Development Framework, the document which sets out how the district will grow and be protected up to 2025.

After the latest lengthy public consultation where it received the views of over 700 people amounting to over a thousand separate comments, the Council has been updating some parts of its Core Strategy which is set to be agreed this summer.

The document sets out broad policies for issues such as housing, the economy, the environment and community wellbeing. It will now be subject to a further period of public consultation before being submitted to a detailed and public examination by an independent Government appointed inspector. Any recommended changes suggested by the inspector will be binding on the Council.

“I would thank all those who have taken one of the many opportunities so far to help shape this important document that will help meet the needs of our district’s residents for homes, jobs, shops and leisure while safeguarding our communities and our valued environment,” said Councillor Andy Smith, Suffolk Coastal’s Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Planning.

“We have to plan carefully for the future, to ensure as much as possible that we maintain and enhance our excellent quality of life, while making it possible for our people to find the jobs and homes that they are needed to stop our district stagnating.

“After September there will be another chance for people to help fine-tune our proposed policies, with all their views being put before an independent inspector who will finalise this carefully set out timetable of development for our district,” added Cllr Smith.

The Core Strategy contains 120 pages and will be on [www.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/yourdistrict/planning/review/corestrategy](http://www.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/yourdistrict/planning/review/corestrategy) after September but here is a brief summary of some of its main points.

The number of new homes required in the district by 2025 remains at 7,710, although there have been changes in where these are expected to be built. There is already outstanding planning permission for 1,780 of the needed new homes, along with an estimated 540 others likely to occur on infill plots within the towns and villages.

A total of 1,040 new homes are expected to be built in existing urban areas, with 270 from sites already allocated for development in market towns and key or local service centres. This leaves a need for sites to be found for 4,080 homes, of which 1,000 will be in Felixstowe and Trimleys, 2,000 in that part of the District east of Ipswich (which includes Martlesham), 870 in the market towns, and 210 in key or local service centres. In all these areas the initial focus will be on using previously developed 'brownfield' land.

At least 8.5 hectares of employment land will be allocated, creating more than 8,000 new jobs, with three Strategic Employment Areas at Felixstowe Port, Martlesham Heath Business Campus, including Adastral Park, and an extension to Ransomes Europark.

There will be encouragement of economic development in the rural areas, especially in the market towns, supporting agriculture and rural diversification where appropriate, along with regeneration action to support those rural areas suffering from agricultural decline, Leiston, Felixstowe and town centres facing competition.

A planned expansion of tourism in areas able to safely absorb new attractions, such as Felixstowe, Framlingham, Leiston, Saxmundham and the area west of the A12. Affordable housing will be allowed on exception sites outside of the urban areas if there is a proven local need and strict criteria are met, and the Council will continue to insist on one in three of all homes in housing developments to be affordable housing if they involve six homes in major centres or towns, or three in other areas.

## **New conservation area in Felixstowe**

The district's 34th conservation area has been agreed, with the new one in south Felixstowe including Lincoln Terrace and South Hill down to Buregate Road and from Langer Road to the seafront, including Martello Tower Q.

Visit

[www.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/yourdistrict/planning/conservation/felixstowesouth/](http://www.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/yourdistrict/planning/conservation/felixstowesouth/) for more information or contact Robert Scrimgeour on 01394 444616 or email [conservation@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk](mailto:conservation@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk)

## **Get advice about listed buildings**

Suffolk Coastal is warning residents that if they own a listed building they should get official advice from the Council before proceeding with any works that could affect its historic character.

This reminder comes after a recent case when Maxwell Hembry pleaded guilty in Ipswich Magistrates Court to the offence of removing internal walls in his Grade II\* listed building, Burkitt House in Woodbridge. He was fined £14,000 and ordered to pay £2,690 costs to the Council.

Anyone who wants advice on listed buildings should contact the Council's design and conservation team on 01394 444470 and 444616 or email [development.policy@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk](mailto:development.policy@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk) or visit [www.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/yourdistrict/devcontrol/listed](http://www.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/yourdistrict/devcontrol/listed)

## **Engelandvaarders honoured with sculpture at Sizewell beach**

The bravery of 1,700 Dutch people who escaped to England to join the allied forces during the Second World War was honoured with the unveiling at Sizewell beach of a unique sculpture of three bronze paddles, one snapped.

A party of 'Engelandvaarders' and their families from the Netherlands witnessed the event, which also marked the lead up to Armed Forces Day.

"The tale of the Engelandvaarders is one of courage and commitment and this unique memorial symbolises those young Dutchmen who tried to row across to England to join the fight against the Nazi occupiers of their homeland," said Councillor Stephen Burroughes, Chairman of Suffolk Coastal.

"Thirty-two men set out by kayak to reach our shores and only eight actually got here, with two brothers successfully making it to Sizewell after a 56-hour crossing from Katwijk in the Netherlands. The bronze paddles mark their heroic efforts, with the broken one being a poignant symbol of all those who failed," added Cllr Burroughes.

The initiative for a memorial came from Henri Peteri, one of the two brothers who sailed their kayak to Sizewell in September 1941. Henri died in 2007 but his widow, Betty Peteri-Peet, pictured above, unveiled the sculpture.

The monument has been donated by Quooker UK Ltd., a subsidiary of the company started by Henri Peteri, which turned his Quooker boiling water tap into a resounding success.

Most of the Engelandvaarders took a long, dangerous route over land through Spain and Portugal. A smaller group reached England via Scandinavia. Less than 200 succeeded in crossing the North Sea in small motor boats, kayaks or other vessels with many more being arrested or drowned before they reached their final destination.

## **Helping make it a summer of fun**

### **A woodland adventure at Rendlesham Forest**

A Forest Camp has been organised by the Forestry Commission at Rendlesham Forest Centre from Monday August 17 to Friday, August 21, with activities such as bushcraft skills, den making, enhancing your knowledge of natural history and learning techniques to survive in the wild.

A half day from either 10am to 12 Noon or 1pm to 3pm costs £6, a full day from 10am to 3pm costs £10, or the full week costs £40.

### **Angling for something to do?**

Young people aged eight and over can improve their fishing and learn new skills from qualified coaches at Bromeswell Fishery. Half-day sessions are from 9am to 12 Noon or 1pm to 4pm and cost £12.50. A full day is £20, and three days is £40.

The sessions, supported by the Environment Agency, are on Monday, August 3 – Wednesday, August 5, Monday, August 10 to Wednesday, August 12, and Monday, August 17 to Wednesday, August 19.

## **Activity camps**

A choice of over 20 different activities all crammed into one week, including tri-golf, parachute games, puppet making, drawing, junk modelling, face painting, board games, table football, volleyball, spongeball, music making, and adventure games.

You can opt for half a day, a full day or a whole week at Saxmundham Middle School and Otley Village Hall Monday July 27 – Friday July 31, or Cedarwood Primary School and LTAA in Leiston Monday August 10 to Friday, August 14, or Langley Avenue, Felixstowe and Wenhaston Sports Pavilion Monday August 17 to Friday August 21, or Farlingaye High School and Kirton Recreation Ground Monday August 24 to Friday August 28.

Half days are from 9am to 12.30pm or 1.30pm to 5pm and cost £6.50, while a whole day is from 9am to 5pm and costs £12. A whole week is only £50.

## **Take to your dance mats**

Join the fun and funky craze on our fantastic Dance Mats. For complete beginners through to seasoned groovers, simply step yourself into fun and fitness with the easy to use equipment for only £5 per session.

Put on your dancing shoes at Thomas Mills High School, Framlingham on Tuesdays from 9am to 12 Noon on July 28 and August 11, 18, and 25.

Leiston Leisure Centre on Tuesdays from 2pm to 5pm on July 28, and August 11, 18 and 25.

Saxmundham Middle School on Wednesday from 9am to 12 Noon on July 29 and August 12, 19 and 26.

Millennium Sports Ground, Kesgrave on Wednesdays from 2pm to 5pm on July 29 and August 12, 19 and 26.

Felixstowe Leisure Centre on Thursdays from 9am to 12 Noon on July 30 and August 13, 20 and 27.

Grundisburgh Sports Pavilion on Thursdays from 2pm to 5pm on July 30 and August 13, 20, and 27.

Woodbridge Town FC on Fridays from 9am to 12 Noon on July 31 and August 14, 21, and 28.

Rendlesham Sports Centre on Fridays from 2pm to 5pm on July 31 and August 14, 21, and 28.

## **Get your skates on to catch some fun**

Our skatepark coaches will be visiting skateparks and taking the mobile skatepark out across the district, offering basic coaching to help beginners learn and progress safely. Some skateboards, helmets and pads will be available but it is advised that you bring your own. Cost is £2 per session at a skatepark and £2 per hour or £5 per session on the mobile skatepark.

Woodbridge Skatepark on Tuesdays from 10am to 12 Noon on July 28, and August 11, 18 and 25.

Rendlesham Sports Centre on Tuesdays from 2pm to 5pm on July 28 and August 11, 18 and 25.

Felixstowe Skatepark on Wednesdays from 10am to 12 Noon on July 29 and August 12, 19 and 26.

Cedarwood Primary School, Kesgrave on Wednesdays from 2pm to 5pm on July 29, and August 12, 19 and 26.

Framlingham Skatepark on Thursdays, from 10am to 12 Noon on July 30, and August 13, 20, and 27.

Sandlings Primary School, RAF Woodbridge on Thursdays from 2pm to 5pm on July 30 and August 13, 20 and 27.

Wickham Market Skatepark on Fridays from 10am to 12 Noon on July 31 and August 14, 21 and 28.

Otley College on Fridays from 2pm to 5pm on July 31 and August 14, 21 and 28.

## **Xtremefest is back**

Felixstowe's annual free celebration of alternative sports, beach activities and healthy living is back again on Sunday, July 26 with Xtremefest running from 11am to 5pm at Brackenbury Fort.

Among the attractions are a skateboard half-pipe, a climbing wall, Laser Quest, Human Gyroscope, a rodeo surfboard, a bungee run, cheerleading, bocking stilts, survival skills and a live music stage with bands and DJs from the Soundwaves project.

Xtremefest is organised by Suffolk Coastal, in partnership with Felixstowe Police, Felixstowe TV and Keith Atkinson, with Alton Water Sports Centre providing watersports activities, including sailing and windsurfing, and NOMAD Sea Kayaking providing the kayaking and paddleboarding. There will also be refreshments and stalls with a mix of spectator sports and 'try it' sessions.

A Park and Ride facility has been arranged from the train station and The Grove/Eastwood Ho car park to avoid parking problems at the event.

Xtremefest continues into the night with Mesh - 29, Sleepercell and a Soundwaves band playing at The Spa Pavilion. £10 tickets are now on sale from Ticketmaster or the Spa on 01394 282126.

For more information about Xtremefest call 07775 586 545, or 01394 444652, email [active.communities@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk](mailto:active.communities@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk) or visit [www.xtremefest.org.uk/](http://www.xtremefest.org.uk/)

For more information or to book a place on any of the events, call the Active Communities team on 01394 444652 or 07775 586545 or email [active.communities@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk](mailto:active.communities@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk) or visit [www.coastalpotato.co.uk](http://www.coastalpotato.co.uk) or [www.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/yourfreetime/summer/](http://www.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/yourfreetime/summer/)

## **Try home composting**

Home compost bins are on offer at a bargain rate with a 220 litre compost converter for just £12, the 330 litre version for £15, and the 320 litre modular KOMP bin for £43. Home delivery costs an extra £5.

“Compostable waste makes up 30 per cent of an average household’s waste, and composting at home is the most environmentally-friendly way because it involves no travel or processing,” said Councillor Andrew Nunn, Cabinet Member for the Green Environment.

“Over 15,000 home compost bins have already been bought by our residents, which is more than any other district in the county, so join our district’s home composting green army and reap the benefits,” added Cllr Nunn.

To order a compost bin, call 0845 076 0223 or visit [www.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/yourhome/waste/composting](http://www.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/yourhome/waste/composting)

### **Green chance for real nappies**

Parents can save money as well as the environment by switching to real nappies, with estimates that families can save up to £1,000 and make a small dent in the three billion disposable nappies thrown away every year.

To find out more visit [www.goreal.org.uk](http://www.goreal.org.uk) or contact the Suffolk Real Nappy Network on 0870 005 3985 or visit [www.suffolkrealnappynetwork.org.uk](http://www.suffolkrealnappynetwork.org.uk)

### **Improved recycling service expansion is on a roll**

From the end of July, 6,000 more residents in Felixstowe will receive the improved recycling service that has helped homes in Suffolk Coastal recycle 48.5 per cent of their rubbish in 2008/09, compared to the English average of 34.5 per cent.

Cans, tins, foil, plastic containers and paper can be recycled in the new blue-lidded bin, along with cardboard, which can also go into the brown bin with garden waste, cooked and uncooked food and shredded paper.

“The addition of these homes will mean nearly 85 per cent or 48,000 of Suffolk Coastal’s homes have these extra recycling options at their fingertips, making it easier for people to cultivate green habits and reduce the amount of rubbish going to landfill,” said Councillor Andrew Nunn, Cabinet Member for the Green Environment.

The grey-lidded wheeled bin is for household waste that cannot be recycled, and will be collected fortnightly, with the recycling bins emptied the following week. Food waste can still be collected every week as it can go in the brown bin as well as the grey-lidded bin.

The next roll-out is in November when 4,900 more homes in Wenhaston, Blythburgh, Walberswick, Thorington, and parts of Aldeburgh, Trimley St. Mary and Trimley St. Martin, Purdis Farm and Felixstowe will join in, with all remaining homes covered by March 2010.

For more information visit [www.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/yourhome/waste/bluebin](http://www.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/yourhome/waste/bluebin) or call the dedicated helpline on 01394 444050.

## **Be a responsible dog owner – foul up and you could be fined**

If a dog is dangerously out of control in a public area, either the Police or the District Council may take legal action that could result in an unlimited fine and a prison sentence of up to two years, or both, and the dog could be destroyed.

Any stray dog in a public place that is not under the control of a responsible person can be seized by the Council and impounded.

The owner then faces having to pay fees, a minimum of £75, to get the dog back.

The owner cannot recover the dog until all fees have been paid. These fees rise significantly each day and after seven days the dog may be rehomed or destroyed.

It is also an offence for an owner not to clear up after their dog has fouled on a highway, footpath or any open land to which the public have access.

There is a potential maximum fine of £1,000 or the Council may offer a £80 fixed penalty fine, which, if paid within 14 days, avoids the need for the offender to appear in court.

Some clearly marked areas of our beaches have seasonal dog bans applied to them with a £500 maximum penalty.

## **Get carton recycling**

There are now eight different places in the district where people can recycle paper-based cartons used to hold food and drink products such as milk, fruit juices and beverages, wine, soups and desserts.

Just rinse and squash them and drop them into the special containers at Framlingham Sports Club in Badingham Road, the Quay Street car park in Orford, Wickham Market Village Hall, the recycling site behind Woodbridge Community Centre, and Yoxford Village Hall, as well as the Foxhall, Leiston and Felixstowe household waste recycling centres.

## **Helping improve the local business outlook**

Businesses, community groups and town and parish councils can apply for a grant from Suffolk Coastal's Economic Development Support Fund (EDSF) with £150,000 set aside to kickstart projects promoting growth and the district's economy.

In order to be eligible, groups must be based in towns or villages in Suffolk Coastal, excluding Felixstowe and Woodbridge which are being supported by other initiatives. Any group that meets the criteria can be awarded up to 70 per cent of the cost of their project with a maximum grant of £15,000.

“With the current economic difficulties, we are keen to do all we can to boost the district's economic prospects, which is why Suffolk Coastal is using part of a one-off windfall payment to fund the EDSF,” said Councillor Colin Hart, Cabinet Member for the Economy.

Call Sonia Lambert on 01394 444625 or email [sonia.lambert@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk](mailto:sonia.lambert@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk) for more information or visit [www.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/helpingpeople/communitygrants/supportfund](http://www.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/helpingpeople/communitygrants/supportfund)

Help and advice will be on offer to give a much-needed boost to local businesses in Aldeburgh, Leiston and Saxmundham thanks to a new Project Co-ordinator for the Heritage Coast Market Towns Initiative.

Andrew Simpson has been appointed, thanks to funding from Magnox South and Suffolk Coastal, and will help offset the economic effects of Sizewell A's closure which was identified as a key action in the Suffolk Coastal Local Strategic Partnership delivery plan for 2009-11.

The project is expected to focus on local trading conditions, encouraging and maximising inward investment, developing training, marketing and promotion opportunities, along with networking events and individual business support.

Businesses wanting to be involved should contact Andrew Simpson on 01473 242522 or email [andy.simpson@suffolkacre.org.uk](mailto:andy.simpson@suffolkacre.org.uk)

## **Conservatives hold district seat**

On a day when 15 seats were decided across the district, the Conservatives held the vacant Felixstowe South East seat on Suffolk Coastal, with a majority of 163 votes. In the other elections, the Conservatives also won the by-election to Felixstowe Town Council, and there was no change in the district's 13 County Councils seats, with the Conservatives winning 12 and the Liberal Democrats one.

Jan Garfield won the vacant seats on Suffolk Coastal and the Town Council, vacated by Henryk Gorski. The overall turn-out across the district for the County Council elections was 43%, ranging from 34.2% in Kesgrave and Rushmere St Andrews, to 48.9% in Wilford.

The full list of successful County Council candidates was Ron Ward (Aldeburgh and Leiston), Rae Leighton (Blything), Peter Bellfield (Carlford), Nick Barber and Graham Newman (Felixstowe Coastal), John Goodwin (Felixstowe North and Trimley), Colin Hart (Framlingham), Steven Hudson and John Klaschka (Kesgrave and Rushmere St Andrew), Patricia O'Brien (Martlesham), Michael Bond (Wickham), Rosie Clarke (Wilford), and Caroline Page (Woodbridge). The overall state of power at the County Council is now Conservative 55, Liberal Democrats 11, Labour 4, Green Party 2, Independent 2, and UKIP 1.

The seven elected MEPs for the Eastern Region who will serve for the next five years were Geoffrey Van Orden (Conservative), David Bannerman (UKIP), Robert Sturdy (Conservative), Andrew Duff (Liberal Democrat), Richard Howitt (Labour), Victoria Ford (Conservative) and John Agnew (UKIP).

The five parties that came out top of the votes in the European elections in Suffolk Coastal alone were Conservative (13,198), UKIP (8,342), Liberal Democrats (5,769), The Green Party (4,421) and Labour (3,078).

## **Suffolk Coastal strives to become even more efficient**

Despite having saved over £8 million since 2001 and once again being listed among the most efficient councils in the country, Suffolk Coastal has set itself the target of achieving a further 20 per cent reduction in its costs in three years.

The Council wants to save a further £1m in each of the next three years and has begun an update of its priorities, followed by a top to bottom review of all its services and their costs.

“This is an ambitious challenge but the financial realities facing virtually all councils means that we must renew our efforts and begin planning now to ensure that we can continue to provide all our important services and keep our Council Tax low,” said Councillor Ray Herring, Leader of Suffolk Coastal.

“The impact of the national economic downturn has hit our income and increased demand for some of our services, and will also inevitably mean even lower financial support from central Government.

“It is unthinkable to pass that bill on to our Council Taxpayers so we must find ways to cut the costs of our services. It will be a tough challenge as we have consistently been among the councils achieving the biggest efficiencies in the last few years but we must be ready to make some difficult decisions,” added Cllr Herring.

## **Grants boost**

A youth club, a theatre company and a domestic violence charity are among 30 groups in the district that have got grants of nearly £60,000 in total by Suffolk Coastal.

The deadline for the next round of grants is September 30th. For more information call 01394 444320, email [committee.section@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk](mailto:committee.section@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk) or visit [www.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/helpingpeople/communitygrants/councilgrants](http://www.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/helpingpeople/communitygrants/councilgrants)

## **Stephen Burroughes becomes new Chairman of the Council**

One of Suffolk Coastal’s youngest ever councillors has 26 years later become its Chairman of the Council, with Stephen Burroughes taking on the role from Jim Bidwell.

Aged 22, Cllr Burroughes was first elected at Bramfield and Cratfield in 1983 and represented the ward for eight years, returning to the Council in 2000 at Peasenhall and has since been a Cabinet Member.

“It will be the icing on the cake to be the new Chairman of Suffolk Coastal, having cut my political teeth at such a young age and then risen through the Council to eventually become its Chairman, and all achieved in my home patch,” said Councillor Burroughes.

“I want to help develop and re-ignite our sense of civic pride, to improve the sense of confidence within our communities and help put the local back into local government,” added Cllr Burroughes.

## **A new CCTV camera for Felixstowe**

The Felixstowe Community CCTV Partnership now has its fifth camera, with this one keeping a watchful eye on Hamilton Road, near the Beijing Restaurant.

The first four cameras were installed thanks to a Home Office grant of £37,000 secured by the Suffolk Coastal Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and crime has been falling partly as a result.

“The team of trained volunteers in the control room make it possible for officers to respond to incidents caught on camera and are proving to be indispensable to the police as they continue to combat crime and disorder,” said Councillor Doreen Savage, Chairman of the Felixstowe Community CCTV Partnership and LSP Board member.

The extended coverage is thanks to £2,800 from the Felixstowe Chamber of Commerce, £1,000 from the Yeo Group, owner of The Alex and Café Bencotto, £1,000 from Suffolk Constabulary and £1,000 from the Suffolk Coastal CSP, with Felixstowe Town Council meeting the running costs of the cameras.

## **Help shape policing in the district**

Suffolk Police wants to hear from residents across Suffolk Coastal about what they think of their service, what should be their main priorities and how safe people feel where they live.

The survey is available online at [www.suffolk.police.uk](http://www.suffolk.police.uk) or [www.suffolkpoliceauthority.org.uk](http://www.suffolkpoliceauthority.org.uk) (follow the link for ‘Have Your Say’) and includes sections on local policing issues, finance and feeling of safety.

“Survey results and feedback can significantly improve policing in your area and will assist your local police in identifying specific issues and challenges that you and your community faces. Results are continually fed back to local Safer Neighbourhood Teams so they can address specific and immediate problems,” said Assistant Chief Constable Gary Kitching of Suffolk Constabulary.

People can also receive regular short surveys throughout the year. To join in, visit [www.suffolk.police.uk](http://www.suffolk.police.uk), follow the link for ‘Have Your Say’ then select ‘Virtual Policing Community’.

There is also a revised survey specifically aimed at Young People, following last year’s success of attracting nearly 1,200 responses, which can be found on [www.suffolk.police.uk](http://www.suffolk.police.uk), follow the link for ‘Have Your Say’ then select ‘Young Persons Survey’.

Rob Cawley, Headteacher at Deben High School and Lorraine Spall, Police Community Support Officer from Felixstowe and District Safer Neighbourhood Team recently awarded Lucie Standing and Bianca Ranson with iPods for taking part in one of the surveys.

## **Help safeguard children**

The tragic death of Baby Peter focussed attention on the dangers facing some children but there are a number of initiatives underway to prevent any such cases happening locally.

You can play your part if you are concerned that a child may be suffering abuse of any type. Report it to the County's children's services on 08456 023023 during office hours or 01473 299669 at any other time, or call the police on 01473 613500, or 999 in an emergency. To find out more visit [www.suffolkscb.org.uk](http://www.suffolkscb.org.uk)

## **Wickham Market's good neighbours are now good friends**

Wickham Market's Good Neighbours scheme has become the most successful in Suffolk and has celebrated its team of 30 local volunteers carrying out 458 tasks in the last 12 months – a record across the county's 20 schemes co-ordinated by Suffolk ACRE.

Scheme Chairman John Hoe gave his congratulations and sincere thanks to all the volunteers who offer services such as giving lifts, collecting pensions or prescriptions, shopping, minor domestic repairs including checking smoke alarms and changing light bulbs, popping in for chat, help filling forms, and occasional help with pets.

The scheme needs extra volunteers, especially drivers, to help meet the demand in Wickham Market. Anyone living in the village who would like to find out more can call 07914 494108. All volunteers have a criminal register bureau check.

If you are interested in setting up a similar scheme in your village contact Suffolk ACRE'S Gavin Hodge for more information on 01473 242538 or email [gavinhodge@suffolkacre.org.uk](mailto:gavinhodge@suffolkacre.org.uk).

## **Penguins invade Felixstowe**

Art on the Prom is returning to Felixstowe's seafront for its sixth year, offering a contemporary art fair where professional and hobby artists display and sell original work.

Last year's event featured over 70 artists covering a wide range of media and attracted an estimated 20,000 people and this year the event will take place on Sunday, August 30 from 10am to 4pm and is free to the public.

As well as the opportunity to browse or buy original artworks, the Art in the Gardens workshops which run throughout the day, provide young and old with the opportunity to have a go at creating their own piece in one of the many media available. A variety of professional bands and entertainers will be performing throughout the day to add to the enjoyment of the occasion.

Featured artist, Rob Rutterford, has been working with Deben High School students to create an installation of over 100 clay penguins which will all be on the beach, with proceeds from their sale going to the school. Art on the Prom is supported by Carillion, Felixstowe Town Council and Suffolk Coastal.

## **Sit up and take notice of public art in Leiston**

A seating area in Leiston's Old Post Office Square which doubles as a piece of public art, created by local artist Les Bicknell with the help of the town's young people, has been recently unveiled.

The seating represents the artist's interpretation of Leiston's rich heritage and is triangular in shape, with three cylinders at each point. It is made of light-coloured, recycled, sandblasted granite with wooden slats for extra comfort.

“The eye-catching new seating area will provide a place for people in Leiston to sit, relax and take in the scenery, but it will also be an attractive artistic monument to the town’s past,” said Councillor Mary Neale, Cabinet Member for Leisure and Countryside.

Conventional benches were ruled out because they could damage the roots of nearby trees, so Suffolk Coastal was awarded £6,500 by the county council to provide a piece of functional public art to attract visitors and residents alike to Leiston’s Old Post Office Square.

Year seven students from Leiston Middle School helped design patterns for the seat’s surface, inspired by artefacts from Leiston’s Long Shop Museum.

## **What’s on in Suffolk Coastal**

Peasenhall’s 2nd annual Pea Festival  
Sunday, July 19

Darell’s Weekend (with the Sealed Knot), Landguard Fort,  
Felixstowe  
Saturday, July 25 and Sunday, July 26

Xtremefest, Brackenbury Fort, Felixstowe  
Sunday, July 26

The Lullaby Concert, Easton Farm Park  
Thursday, July 30

Aldeburgh Summer Theatre  
July 24 to August 29  
Hachfest at Hacheston  
Friday, July 31 to Sunday, August 2

Snape Proms  
August 1-31

Felixstowe Carnival procession  
Saturday, August 8

The British Open Crabbing Championship, Walberswick  
Sunday, August 9

Aldeburgh Carnival Weekend  
Saturday, August 15, Monday, August 17

Thorpeness Regatta and fireworks  
Thursday, August 20, Friday, August 21

Hot Rod and Classic Vehicle Rally, Felixstowe Prom  
Saturday, August 29

Art on the Prom, Felixstowe  
Sunday, August 30

Aldeburgh Food and Drink Festival  
September 26 and 27

Visit one of our tourist information centres for our monthly  
what's on guide or visit  
<http://www.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/yourfreetime/calendar/whatson/>

## **Best of local talent captured on CD**

The ten talented winners of the Soundwaves Ultimate Bands Contest celebrated their success with a gig to launch the new Sounds of the East Coast 2 album, a compilation of tracks recorded in a professional studio as part of their prize.

Axis, Ed Sheeran, Friendly Misunderstood Rabbits, Silk & Steel and Voxx Logic, now called Fick as Fieves, won the first heat of the Contest, and Hey Zuuz, Mainstream Daydream, Dirty Shockwaves, Bernadette and Containz Nutz triumphed in the second heat.

For more information on the project or to buy the CD, visit [www.myspace.com/suffolksoundwavesmusic](http://www.myspace.com/suffolksoundwavesmusic), call 07973 632 576 or email [suffolksoundwaves@hotmail.com](mailto:suffolksoundwaves@hotmail.com)

All the Soundwaves bands on the CD are playing the Xtremefest on Sunday July 26, the Hachfest on Saturday August 1, the Leiston Skate Jam on Sunday August 16 and the Woodbridge Skate Jam on Sunday September 6.

## **Youth bus is making tracks**

A double-decker bus has been converted into the Go With The Flow mobile youth centre for Suffolk Coastal's rural communities - a place to relax, socialise and pick up new skills, information on health and social issues plus local job opportunities.

“With a sound system and chill out area, wireless internet access, Macbooks, Nintendo Wii and kitchen, supervised by trained youth workers as well as volunteers, the Go With The Flow bus is a mobile haven for teenagers,” said Councillor Doreen Savage, Cabinet Member for Young People.

Open from 7pm to 9pm, the youth bus visits Wickham Market on Thursdays and Saxmundham on Fridays, and on Sundays is in Dennington on July 19, August 2, 16 and 30, and in Yoxford on July 26 and August 9 and 23, along with smaller towns and villages every Wednesday. Visit [www.gowiththeflowbus.com](http://www.gowiththeflowbus.com) for more information.

The bus was purchased using Extended Schools funding and refurbished with £50,000 from the BIG Lottery Fund and

£20,000 from the Youth Capital Fund, which was secured thanks to a funding bid put in by the district's young people.

## **Young people cash in**

Young people in Suffolk Coastal with exciting ideas are being urged to apply for financial support as over £30,000 was still is up for grabs from the Youth Opportunity Fund (YOF).

“This pot of money will give groups of young people aged 13 to 19, or those aged up to 24 with additional needs, the power to shape their communities, encouraging them to take the initiative and establish innovative local projects that will give their peers things to do and places to go,” said Councillor Doreen Savage, Cabinet Member for Young People.

For more information about the YOF, and a detailed list of application criteria, contact Rachel Fell on 01473 260167, email [rachel.fell@cyp.suffolkcc.gov.uk](mailto:rachel.fell@cyp.suffolkcc.gov.uk) or visit [www.thesource.me.uk/yocf](http://www.thesource.me.uk/yocf) where application forms can also be downloaded.

## **Woody fun**

Thanks to a successful lottery bid by Suffolk Coastal, Rendlesham Forest now has a bike skills park and play area managed by the Forestry Commission.

The play area for 3 to 13 year-olds has a maze, a life-sized aeroplane model, cargo nets, a spider's web, hollow tree trunk tunnels and a climbing wall. The bike skills park is aimed at children and young people, though it can be used by all ages. It covers a 50 square metre area, and slopes, dips, jumps and tunnels have been built into the track to challenge and hone cyclists' riding abilities.