



coastline

Winter 2018

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Historic Time for **Suffolk Coastal**

This is a truly historic time for Suffolk Coastal – as we move towards the creation of a new ‘super district’ authority for this area.

On 1 April 2019, Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils will merge to form East Suffolk Council, which will be the biggest district council in the country, serving a quarter of a million people, **explained Suffolk Coastal's Leader Cllr Ray Herring.**

The new council will be spread across 487.2 sq mile (1,261.9 km²) of Suffolk's east coast, from Lowestoft down to Felixstowe.

East Suffolk Council will be responsible for delivering over 80 different services, from

leisure, countryside management, and refuse collection through to planning and coastal management.

This will be provided through a streamlined administration, with the number of councillors dropping from the existing 90 across the current two councils to 55 for the single East Suffolk Council.

The merger is the logical next step, building on 10 years of successful partnership working between Suffolk Coastal and Waveney, which has seen our joint workforce nearly halved, from 1,350 to about 730.

This has also resulted in cumulative savings of £22.5million.

The new East Suffolk Council will be more efficient, more effective, more resilient, and better able to represent the interests of the communities, businesses and taxpayers.

However, we are not just focussing on this. As you will read in this edition of Coastline, we are continuing our ambitious multi-million pound plans to upgrade our leisure centre facilities.

Deben in Woodbridge is attracting rave reviews after reopening recently, while Leiston is currently being refurbished, ahead of Felixstowe's facilities being reviewed – with the overall aim of providing cutting-edge, modern fitness facilities across the district.

We are also working to update our Local Plan – to provide a framework for creating the additional housing, particularly affordable homes, and infrastructure the district desperately needs.

The dwindling financial support from central Government has forced us to introduce schemes such as charging to collect garden waste.

However, despite our predicted budget gap for the next financial year, we are committed to continuing to invest in the prosperity of this area, while also keeping Council Tax increases down to a minimum.



For more on the reopening of Deben Leisure Centre, see page 2



Deben Leisure Centre is officially open

The £3.5 million redevelopment of Deben Leisure Centre was marked by an official reopening ceremony on 6 October 2018.

Suffolk Coastal's Chairman, Cllr Nicky Yeo carried out the all important opening duties alongside Cllr TJ Haworth-Culf, Suffolk Coastal's Cabinet Member with responsibility for Customers, Communities and Leisure.

Cllr Yeo, said: "This £3.5 million redevelopment is the first significant investment in the facility since a roof was added to the pool

in 1984, and I think we have provided a fantastic facility that will serve the needs of the community for the foreseeable future.

"I would like to thank the council's leisure development partners, Pulse Design and Build, our operators, Places Leisure and Sport England for the £500,000 grant to help fund the facility.

"Last, but certainly not least, I would also like to thank the users of Deben Leisure Centre, particularly the very loyal members who have given us a great deal of feedback on the redevelopment and have been very

passionate about the final results."

After Cllr Yeo and Cllr Haworth-Culf cut the ribbon to declare Deben Leisure Centre officially open for business, our partners, Places Leisure staged a range of activities including personal trainer tasters, group exercise sessions and family fit exercise classes which were free for both members and non-members.

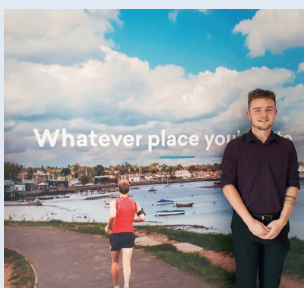
Jeremy Boreham, Area Manager at Places Leisure, said: "Deben Leisure Centre is now more than just a pool. The mix of facilities on offer – pool, gym, classes,



Chairman, Cllr Nicky Yeo and Cllr TJ Haworth-Culf

indoor cycling, sauna/steam room, allows us to provide varied programmes at affordable prices."

Aspiring photographer's photo welcomes visitors



This is Tom Andrews, one of the Council's Planning Services Support Officer. In his spare time, Tom is an up and coming photographer, and a very talented one at that.

So when we needed to commission a picture that captures Woodbridge for the entrance of Deben Leisure Centre, we didn't have to look very far.

If you would like to see more of Tom's work, go to www.tomandrewsphotography.com

Five months in and Deben Leisure Centre is doing extremely well with new membership sign ups comfortably exceeding expectations.

Cllr TJ Haworth-Culf, Suffolk Coastal's Cabinet Member with responsibility for Customers, Communities and Leisure, said: "It has certainly been a couple of busy months for Deben Leisure Centre, which is fantastic to see.

"We have had some really



fantastic feedback from our customers, and we are very grateful to them for telling us how they feel about the new facilities.

"Knowing that people are responding so positively to what we have achieved makes all the hard work worth it."



The facilities are not the only thing that has been improved. The centre now offers longer opening hours to fit around people's schedule, and is open Monday – Friday 6am – 10pm and Saturday and Sunday 7am – 8pm.

For more information, go to www.debenleisurecentre.co.uk

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Leiston closed for £3.5 million refurbishment

Leiston Leisure Centre was closed in September to undergo a £3.5 million refurbishment to transform it into an exciting, modern facility.

Cllr TJ Haworth-Culf, Suffolk Coastal's Cabinet Member with responsibility for Customers, Communities and Leisure, said: "We're really excited about work starting on Leiston Leisure Centre, which will bring state-of-the-art leisure facilities to the area.

"The work will be completed over several stages with an initial closure period of about six months needed to undertake structural work. The centre will partly reopen once the first stage is completed, and we expect the whole centre to be fully reopened in summer 2019.

"I want to thank members and the community for their

support for the redevelopment so far. I understand that the closure will cause some inconvenience but the work is much-needed so we can bring the ageing facility up to the standard we require.

"We are committed to getting more people active and fit, and the Leiston redevelopment is a key part of our Business Plan to provide access to high quality, modern leisure facilities that the whole community can enjoy."

The new leisure centre was designed with the council's leisure development partner, Pulse Design & Build and operators, Places Leisure, and includes a new spacious gym with modern equipment, and a new health suite by the pool area.

The plans also include a high



Work is well underway at Leiston Leisure Centre

quality village style changing area by the pool. This will be family friendly with cubicles for parent and child, separate changing areas for groups, which can also be used by the public when empty and individual changing cubicles and showers.

More fitness classes will be available with two new dance studios and a group cycling

studio, which will also serve as multi-bookable rooms.

The refurbishment is part of the council's five year programme to improve leisure facilities for the district and encourage more people to become more active.

For more information about the project, go to www.leistonleisurecentre.co.uk

Fitness boost to a local academy.

Leiston Leisure Centre's current equipment is still high quality and has many years of use left in it, so Suffolk Coastal has donated it to the nearby Alde Valley



Cllr TJ Haworth-Culf and Dan Mayhew, Principal of Alde Valley Academy

www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk

Academy to bolster its ability to encourage youngsters to keep fit.

The academy's Physical Education team chose a mixture of mainly Techno Gym CV and fixed resistance equipment from the leisure centre, which has now been installed and is available for use by the students.

This 'recycling' of the gym equipment to the local academy supports Suffolk Coastal's strategic aim of encouraging people of all ages in the district to live healthier lifestyles and become more active.

Felixstowe consultation

Following work undertaken by The Sports Consultancy on Suffolk Coastal Leisure Redevelopment Programme and the possibilities for Felixstowe, a programme of public consultation was held earlier this year.

This included an online public consultation survey using Survey Monkey between 19 February and 30 April. An impressive total of 996 people completed the survey. Thank you to everyone who took the time to give us their comments.

Some of the outcomes from the survey shows:

- 65% of respondents don't

use sport facilities outside of Felixstowe

- The 5 most popular activities were:
 - Leisure swimming
 - Swimming to keep fit
 - Gym/health and fitness activities
 - Exercise classes
 - Racket sports
- 68% of respondents would be prepared to travel 5 to 10 minutes to a new leisure centre
- 51% of respondents prioritised the proximity of facilities to a free car park with 51% ranking this as the most important. It was not so important for leisure facilities to be located near a school.

Ahead in **Planning!**



Our award winning Planning department

Suffolk Coastal's high quality Planning department was recognised by two top awards at the Royal Town Planning Institute's East of England awards for Planning Excellence event at Girton College, Cambridge.

Two awards were presented at the event on Friday 14 September 2018:

The Award for Planning Excellence was awarded to Suffolk Coastal District Council and Commercial Estates Group (CEG) for the Brightwell Lakes (Adastral Park).

This award acknowledged the fantastic collaboration between the council, applicant and local communities, developing a proposal that addressed all the planning issues in a timely and inclusive way. This ensured the development consent took advantage of the opportunity to create the new homes, while minimising the impact on the sensitive area.

And, the future is bright, with the second award for the **Young Planner of the Year** being awarded to Ben

Woolnough, Major Projects Advisor, in Suffolk Coastal's Planning department - who worked on the Brightwell Park project, among others.

"This is a fantastic recognition of the approach of the council and, in particular, the Planning Committee and Planning department. It recognises our ability to face up to the difficult challenges planning presents and deliver the right outcome. It is particularly the case when you take into account the long and complex history of this site," said Cllr Tony Fryatt, Suffolk Coastal's Cabinet Member with responsibility for Planning.

"The Brightwell Park development is now the benchmark for all the other strategic scale developments that are proposed in our new Local Plan, and across east Suffolk as a whole."

"The awards are brilliant news, as they acknowledge all the hard work that Ben and the planning team have put in to this project. It also recognises the incredible range and depth of skills we have at Suffolk Coastal."

East Suffolk **Parking Plan**

Thank you to those who responded to our recent consultation on the draft East Suffolk Area Parking Plan – which sets out how parking will be managed in the future.

The East Suffolk Area Parking Plan is a completely new parking policy document. It has been drafted with the objective of setting out the broad parking policy objectives that will be adopted by east Suffolk.

This work is essential to support the aim of the local authorities across Suffolk being given responsibility for Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE).

This change is being sought because one of the biggest complaints raised by local people is the wish that someone would 'sort out' the on-street parking issues. The Police have stated they do not have the resources to carry out parking enforcement duties – so the local councils have

stepped in to fill the gap.

The County Council will draft the Suffolk Parking Management Strategy as a high level policy document. While each enforcement district is producing its own Area Parking Plan.

East Suffolk's draft Area Parking Plan went out to consultation during July and August. In all, 75 responses were received from stakeholders, including town and parish councils, as well as the public.

The draft plan is now in the process of being amended, in the light of the responses to the consultation, ahead of being adopted by the east Suffolk councils (Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils).

Suffolk Public Sector Leaders continue to lobby the Secretary of State for Transport to grant Suffolk CPE powers, but no implementation date is currently available

Helping us **plan for the future**

Thank you to everyone who took part in our consultation on the First Draft Local Plan which ended on 14 September.

We received over 3000 comments from 1200 people, which will help us shape the future of our towns, villages and countryside.

The new Local Plan will cover Suffolk Coastal until 2036 and will guide development and include policies which will be

used when making decisions on planning applications.

The next stage is to consider all the comments we have received and prepare a Final Draft Local Plan for further public consultation in early 2019, which we encourage everyone to get involved in.

For more information on the progress of the Local Plan, go to www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/local-plans/suffolk-coastal-local-plan

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Beach Café approved for Martello Park

A planning application for an exciting development in the heart of Felixstowe's South Seafront has been given the go ahead by Suffolk Coastal's Planning Committee.

The application sets out the plans for a new beach café in the Martello Park, the design of which will be based around strong coastal themes and sympathetically balances its sensitive location whilst also being an iconic visual draw to this area.

The plan was drawn up after an engagement event was held by Suffolk Coastal District Council, through Felixstowe Forward, in July 2018 to seek the views of local people about plans for Felixstowe's future.

This gave the council an opportunity to present the proposed plan for the South Seafront to the local community and gain important and valuable feedback. The majority of

the feedback received was positive and supportive.

Cllr Geoff Holdcroft, Suffolk Coastal's Cabinet Member with responsibility for Economic Development, said: "This is one of those rare occasions where the council is the developer, and just like other developers, we've had to go through the democratic planning process.

"Martello Park is an exceptional development that has become a popular area in Felixstowe, and this new development will provide another excellent facility in the area to residents and tourists alike.

"A lot is happening in Felixstowe at the moment, and Suffolk Coastal has invested a lot in developing the town. We believe it is vital that we continue to build on this investment and create developments that benefit local people and visitors to the area."

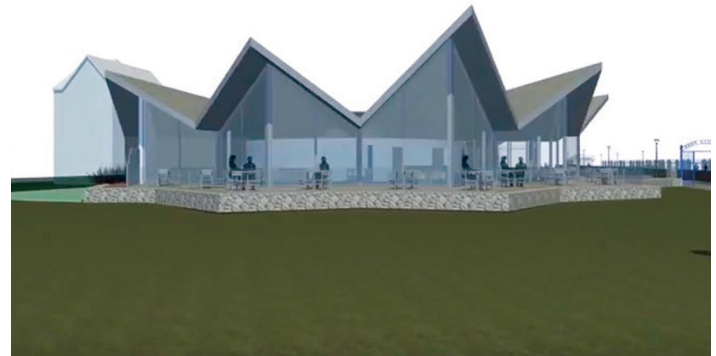


Illustration of proposed beach café

The area for the development has been designated for a café since the first planning approval in 2009 and again in the implemented 2012 proposals. Although it was not part of the planning permission at the time, it formed a part of the masterplan for the housing developments and Martello Park.

The council has since delivered a substantial and very popular play area at Martello Park and invested in the long term maintenance

of its historic Martello Tower which forms the centrepiece of the park.

To view the planning application, go to: <https://publicaccess.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/online-applications/> and search for 'DC/18/3173/FUL'.

A CGI video to illustrate the proposal has also been uploaded on our YouTube channel. To view, go to www.youtube.com/watch?v=B2P6NxcVBWk&feature=youtu.be

Getting Suffolk Coastal Connected

Work is now beginning to improve the broadband service in the rural areas of Suffolk Coastal.

"We believe having access to high speed, affordable broadband internet services is essential for the continued economic growth of our district and important to our communities, particularly in the more rural areas," explained Suffolk Coastal's Leader, Cllr Ray Herring.

"Our Enabling Communities agenda is all about helping our communities to grow and www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk

prosper. We believe providing better broadband is central to the success of this priority."

Suffolk Coastal is an active partner in the county-wide, Suffolk Better Broadband Programme which has the aim of providing 100% superfast fibre broadband coverage across the county.

But it is recognised that there is likely to be 2-3% of properties that will be without access to reasonable broadband services when the existing programme ends in mid 2020. In rural areas, the



percentage without access is expected to be much greater.

So, in support of our Enabling Communities priority, a Suffolk Coastal Enabling Broadband Programme Board was established in June 2017 with the aim of supporting those communities which are likely to be in that 2-3% to not have access to an affordable high speed broadband service.

Initially, work was carried

out with local communities to identify the worst affected areas and to map out what work needed doing. Then, in May this year, Suffolk Coastal's Cabinet threw its weight behind the scheme – and put aside £250,000 to pay for the work.

Now the contracts have been awarded and work has begun to provide the improved coverage across over 50 parishes across the top half of the District.

Free Parking

Announced



The east Suffolk councils are supporting communities by offering free car parking at a key time.

The councils are supporting shoppers and traders in the build up to Christmas, particularly with events such as Christmas markets and Christmas lights being switched on.

“Obviously, in the build up to Christmas, there is a large variety of events being held over a longer period of time. However, we would still like to do our bit in supporting the community events and are getting into the festive spirit by offering periods of free parking in the weeks leading up to Christmas,” said Cllrs Poulter and Catchpole.

Suffolk Coastal and Waveney will offer two-hour blocks of free parking to support the local communities which can be used to link to specific events twice during the build up to Christmas (so two session of free parking in the four-week period before Christmas).

Town and Parish Councils can decide which days they would like to operate the two-hour's free parking, and in which car park(s) across east Suffolk, then contact Sue Keeble at Norse on Susan.Keeble@ncsgrp.co.uk

Universal Credit

rollout continues

The rollout of Universal Credit continues across the country, and Suffolk Coastal, but local people are being reassured that there is support in place to help them through the transition.

In the Suffolk Coastal area the final Jobcentres to move over to Universal Credit Full Service were Leiston, Felixstowe and Woodbridge in mid-October 2018.

Universal Credit, which is assessed and awarded by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) is a new single benefit which brings together six of the existing ‘legacy benefits’ - Jobseekers Allowance, Income Support, Employment and Support Allowance, Housing Benefit,

Working Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit.

It aims to simplify the benefits system and help ensure people are better off in work. It is paid as a single monthly payment, direct to the customer, similar to a wage.

The change means that any new claims for older-style legacy benefits made by people under pension age will now be for Universal Credit instead.

“We recognise that this is a period of uncertainty for people and want to make sure they are supported through the application process as well as having all the information they need about the benefit changes,”



said Cllr Richard Kerry, whose portfolio on Suffolk Coastal's Cabinet includes Universal Credit.

“A huge amount of information is already available on our website. We are also working with a whole range of partners to make sure that people in this area can access the support they need to take the worry and uncertainty out of the change to Universal Credit.”

Find out more about Universal Credit at: www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/universal-credit

Support is available through Suffolk Coastal

- Help is available for people needing to make a claim online – they can visit us at one of our customer service centres across east Suffolk where staff are on hand to help, as well as public access terminals (computers) being available;
- We can help people applying for Universal Credit who want to look into how they can make the most of their new single monthly payment. Suffolk Coastal is working with Felixstowe Citizens Advice and Leiston, Saxmundham and District Citizens Advice to offer free personalised financial advice. This can be accessed by speaking to their work coach or talking to Citizens Advice directly;
- Suffolk Coastal's Housing Benefits and Housing Options teams are working with Felixstowe, Leiston and Woodbridge Jobcentres, sharing our knowledge of Housing, Homelessness, Discretionary Housing Payments, help with making and maintaining an online claim and help moving over to a single monthly payment;
- We are working with Citizens Advice, Flagship and the Disability Advice Service to help people make or maintain the online Universal Credit claims;
- A Private Landlords' guide to Universal Credit has been produced, following comments made in the Waveney area when Universal Credit was rolled out there. This is on our website at: www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/universal-credit
- We have worked with North East Suffolk and Felixstowe Citizens Advice to produce a social media video to help people prepare for UC – on our website at www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/universal-credit or on YouTube.

Removal of unwanted brown bins

Phase one of delivering the new garden waste bins to homes in Suffolk Coastal has now been completed, although we will continue to deliver them to people who signed up after 26 August.

The new bins have been fitted with embedded, hi-tech tags - radio-frequency identification (RFID) tags. These can be 'read' by a special device that the bin lorry crews have, to ensure the right bins are emptied.

We will also be carrying out a phased 'retro-fit' of the tags to the brown bins, where people have joined the garden waste scheme but have not opted to have one of the new larger green bins.

We have now started the process of collecting all unwanted brown bins in the district. This is being done area by area, according to the normal routes and days for collection.

A week before the removal of the brown bins in an area, our refuse crews will leave a hanger on the grey bins on that route. The hanger explains what to do and when to put brown bins out for us to take away.

"We have had a very good response to the launch of

the Garden Waste Scheme. About 33,000 households (or about 57% of homes) have now signed up. Of these, 80% have opted to get the new, larger green bins," explained Cllr Carol Poulter, Suffolk Coastal's Cabinet Member with responsibility for the Green Environment.

"The new bins have been delivered to households in Suffolk Coastal, and we have now started the process of removing the unwanted brown bins. This is a huge logistical exercise and, as we don't know how many unwanted bins there are, it is difficult to predict how long it will take to complete.

"Accidents can happen, so if your unwanted brown bin is not removed with others in your street, you can report it to us. We will endeavour to remove any we've missed within a week, but we would ask people to bear with us as there is a lot to be done."

Households are being asked to put unwanted brown bins out on their normal garden waste collection day, and to use the bin hanger to tell the removal crews to take it away. Securely attach the hanger to the handle of the unwanted brown bin so that the 'tick' is clearly visible.

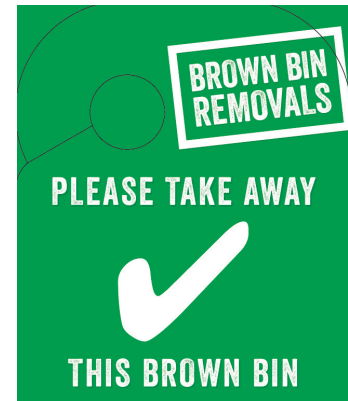
If you don't have the hanger, you can also put a note on any unwanted brown bin, asking for it to be taken away. Just make sure the note is large enough to be clearly visible to the collection crews and securely attached to the bin.

On collection day, the refuse crews will empty ALL brown bins as well as green bins. The unwanted brown bins will be marked with temporary spray paint and left by the side of the road. The removal crews will pick these up later on the same day.

The removal crews will only take the bins with the sprayed marking. If there is any doubt as to whether the bin is wanted or not, it will not be removed.

We don't know how many households want to keep their brown bins for repurposing and how many will need to be removed. Therefore, it is hard to set a time-scale for the operation, but we estimate that around 40,000 unwanted brown bins will be removed over a six week period.

If you are already a member of the scheme and haven't opted in yet, you can still change your mind. We will continue to provide



Worried about the lid not fitting?

You may find that the lid of your freshly delivered green bin does not seem to fit properly. Some warping can occur because of the way the bins have been stacked for transportation. It is normal and we know from experience that the warping does rectify itself within about a month. We recommend you just place a heavy item on your bin lid for a few days to encourage it to go back to the correct shape. There is no need to contact us about this unless your bin has other physical signs of damage.

the upgraded bins, free of charge, to anyone who is eligible, even after the autumn rollout.

It is never too late to join the Garden Waste Scheme and still get 12 months worth of collections. It's quick and easy to sign up, too. You can:

- Go online at: my.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/MyServices. You will need to register, or login to, your My Eastsuffolk account and then complete the form for garden waste
- Call Customer Services on **01394 383789**, and choose option '0'
- Or, pop in to see our Customer Service staff in the Customer Service Centre in Felixstowe and Woodbridge Library

You will need a debit or credit card to pay. The fee for each bin is £43 for a year (the equivalent of paying about £1.65 per fortnightly collection). You can place your order now and don't forget to say 'YES' to the upgrade.

New Logo

With the creation of a new super district council for east Suffolk and the formal dissolution of Suffolk Coastal and Waveney now only months away, a brand identity and logo for the new authority has been formally approved and revealed.

Developed by local design agency, Spring from Southwold, the councils have agreed on a fresh, bold and contemporary identity combining elements that reflect the geography and location of the council which will begin operations on April 1 2019.

The image presents the idea of a compass point facing east while also incorporating four colours which embody who and where we are – two shades of blue for the sky and the sea, green for land and yellow for both the beach and the sun.

Considerable thought was given not just simply to how the logo looks but also how it will be used in a range of different settings; public signs of varying sizes - from buildings to refuse bins - council vehicles, letters and



social media icons. It was agreed that the new identity should be clean, unfussy, dynamic and a bold assertion of who we are.

Cllrs Ray Herring and Mark Bee, Leaders of Suffolk Coastal and Waveney are delighted with the finished product and believe it is a strong look for a new and forward-looking local

“the whole process is more than simply creating a new badge”

authority. They said: “A new logo and brand identity is not necessarily one of the most important tasks we face when creating a brand new council to deliver important services

for local people. Naturally, our primary focus is on investing in our communities and building a 21st century organisation which meets demands and improves outcomes for everyone in east Suffolk.

“However the two existing councils currently have two separate and very different visual identities and

creating one new, single ‘look’ is essential to ensure our customers and communities understand what has changed and why. With this in mind we took advice from the design agency about the strength of simplicity in logo design while also seeking to represent who and where we are in a single image. We are really pleased with the end product and it will of course be implemented properly once the new council begins operations on April 1.”

Cllr TJ Haworth-Culf, Chair of the Member Working Group for Communications and Branding which led on the project also explained that a huge amount of work will now be going in to this

implementation and that the whole process is more than simply creating a new badge.

She said: “We asked Spring to take a holistic approach so not only have they designed the new brand, they are also providing clear guidance and support regarding how it is used to forge a strong identity for the council both locally, but also on the national stage where other councils have watched our ground-breaking and innovative merger with great interest.

“We have also been working hard to ensure that all signs across the two current council areas are replaced and this will of course be achieved as quickly and as cost-effectively as possible. Vehicles will need to be changed and even the letters we send out. We set a budget for the work to create a new brand identity, we are pleased to have come in under that and while we fully understand that design can create a full range of different opinions we are very pleased that we have achieved exactly what we set out to do.”

Social Media

For all the latest news and updates from east Suffolk, follow us on social media across a range of platforms! You can read and watch all about what we do for you on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram – with ‘East Suffolk’ accounts having now replaced our previous, separate, Suffolk Coastal and Waveney feeds. Follow us now for up to the minute information at your fingertips!

[@eastsuffolk](https://twitter.com/eastsuffolk)

The story so far ...

- 2008:** Appointment of Joint Chief Executive
- 2009:** Creation of joint Senior Management Team
- 2010:** First simultaneous Cabinet
- 2013:** Full assimilation of east Suffolk workforce
- 2016:** Council decision to create new single council
- 2016:** Submission to Government
- 2017:** Minister ‘Minded to’
- 2018:** Ministerial approval and Parliamentary decision
- 2019:** New Council created and first elections

Prospectus

Prospectus

The new East Suffolk Council is built on a decade of successful partnership working. Suffolk Coastal and Waveney Councils always had a great deal in common and the first steps towards the new combined council were taken as long ago as 2008, when we were among the first in the country to appoint a shared Chief Executive.

Over the last 10 years, this ground-breaking partnership working has created over £22million in savings across the two councils; we also have an integrated staff structure and shared policies. Now we are taking the next logical step, with the creation of the new East Suffolk Council on 1 April 2019.

The new East Suffolk Council will be more efficient, more effective, more resilient, and better able to represent the interests of its communities, businesses and taxpayers.

It will be the largest district council in the country, over 487 sq miles, and will serve 250,000 residents. It will have nearly 50 miles of coastline, deliver over 80 different services, contain 164 town

and parish councils and will include the most easterly point in the UK.

To learn more about why we are creating a new council, take a look at the **East Suffolk Prospectus - available now on our website at: www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/new_council/prospectus**.

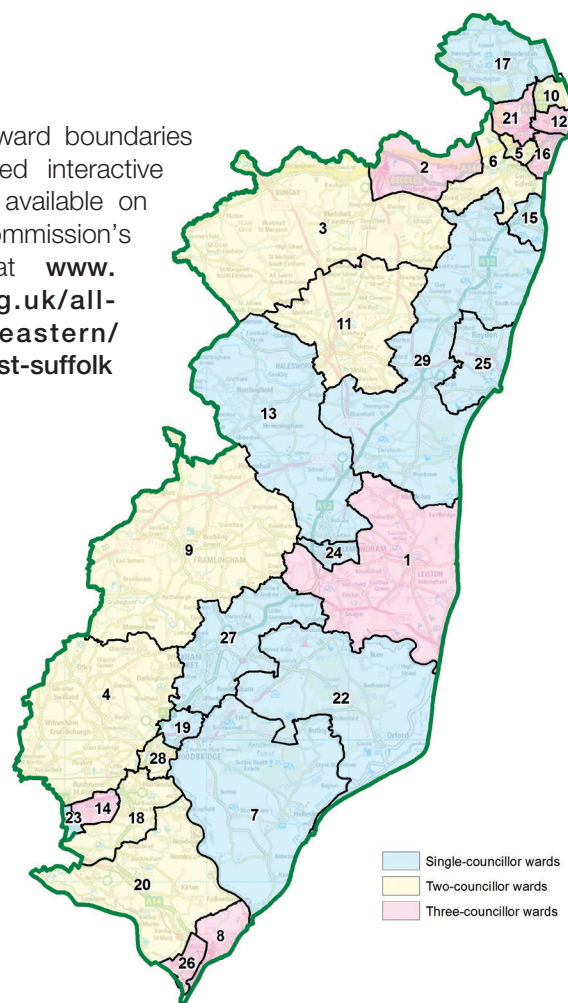
New Boundaries

The independent Local Government Boundary Commission for England has announced and published the council ward boundaries for the new East Suffolk Council.

Having already agreed to reduce the 90 councillors across Suffolk Coastal and Waveney to just 55, the councils required the Commission to seek local views on the proposals and a consultation was opened for anyone interested in how the new council area will be represented.

The new boundaries will see eleven one-councillor wards, ten two-councillor wards and eight three-councillor wards and the boundaries will come into effect at the first elections for the new authority in May 2019.

The new ward boundaries and detailed interactive maps are available on the Commission's website at **www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/eastern/suffolk/east-suffolk**



Did you know?

One of the formalities which must occur as part of the creation of a new council, is the introduction of a temporary body, made up of existing councillors, which is called a 'Shadow Authority'.

The Shadow Authority for East Suffolk is responsible for ensuring that all necessary measures are in place to allow for the functions and powers to

transfer to the new council -including adopting policies and strategies and setting budget and precept levels to operate from 1 April 2019.

So don't be surprised when you receive your council tax bills early next year! You will actually receive them, not from Suffolk Coastal, (which will soon cease to exist) but from 'The Shadow Authority on behalf of East Suffolk Council'.



www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk



Seafront shelters returned to former glory

Two shelters at Felixstowe’s iconic seafront are back to their former glory after a £150,000 refurbishment.

The timber shelters required a full refurbishment after suffering significant timber decay, vandalism and weather damage over the years, exacerbated by flooding during tidal surges.

“These well-loved shelters are situated within a prominent location on Felixstowe’s south seafront and play an important role in supporting the tourism economy within the town,” said Cllr Geoff Holdcroft, Suffolk Coastal’s Cabinet Member with responsibility for Economic Development.

“They were in a very poor

condition, so it was a key priority for us to carry out the work needed to bring them back to their best. They now look fantastic and I hope that they will be enjoyed by residents and visitors alike.

“This refurbishment ties in with our masterplan to continue to develop Felixstowe. We believe it is vital that we continue to build on this investment to benefit local people and visitors to the area.”

The repair work was carried out by our partners, Suffolk Coastal Norse, who brought the project in on budget at £150,000. It was carefully planned to ensure the historic nature of the shelters were retained and



Cllr Geoff Holdcroft and Cllr TJ Haworth-Culf

sympathetic to their original character.

The shelters, named Manwick and Arwela, have had rotten wood, glazed screens and panelling replaced as well as new

Victorian style benches and new floor tiles throughout.

Repairs have been made to the structural posts and a new protective painting system used. Arwela has also had a new slate roof.

FelixTime Banking – an exciting new volunteering opportunity in Felixstowe

- Do you have an hour spare to volunteer?
- Do you need someone to help you for an hour in return?
- Are you new to volunteering?

If the answer to one or more of the above questions is ‘Yes’, then read on!

Whether you have an ‘offer’ or a ‘request’ for one hour of time, we would love to introduce you to FelixTime Banking.

Timebanking encourages individuals, businesses and organisations to volunteer their time to build a more supportive community. Each hour that is given to the community is rewarded with a time credit that is stored in the Timebank. This can be exchanged for a service you, your family, business or organisation need. You can also choose to donate your credit to the community bank.

No money is involved, only time as a community asset.

E.G. One hour writing an application form	Exchanged for one hour accompanying someone to a medical appointment
One hour talk provided at a care home	Exchanged for hour attending a health and wellbeing session at the surgery

You can offer a talent, hobby, professional skill or just time to support another person. Everyone’s time is valuable: whether it is IT support, gardening support, shopping support or becoming a telephone support buddy to someone newly released from hospital.

For more details, go to <https://tol2.timebanking.org/felixstowe> or contact Jan McGuire on 01394 444 577 / 07917 481 918.



New Beach Huts - plans resubmitted

Plans to give more people the unique 'beach hut experience' in Felixstowe have been resubmitted - with the potential sites for 17 new beach huts being identified.

In the long term, Suffolk Coastal District Council, which is the landowner and runs the beach hut and chalet service, hopes to create more beach hut sites across the district.

An application to provide sites for 17 new huts in The Dip, Cliff Road, Felixstowe, was originally submitted in January 2018 - however, this was withdrawn to allow further work to be done on the proposal.

Now a revised planning application has been submitted covering the area of The Dip Boatyard and adjacent land. This would create 17 new beach hut sites in the boatyard area and a car parking area adjacent to the boatyard. One of the new beach huts would be for the exclusive use of the windsurfing club.

"Suffolk Coastal is committed to making beach huts more accessible to a wider range of people," explained Suffolk Coastal's Cabinet



Felixstowe beach huts

member with responsibility for Customers, Communities and Leisure, Cllr TJ Haworth-Culf.

"These will then be leased or rented out, so many more people will be able to enjoy the beach hut experience, even if it is just for a day, week or a year!"

"The two main drivers of the beach hut review were to improve equality by increasing the opportunities for residents to have access to a beach hut, while also maximising the income generated from this resource to invest in core services."

"The creation of new sites will provide additional funds to the council, thus reducing

the burden on the Suffolk Coastal tax payer."

"The planning application for the 17 sites at The Dip has been reviewed and developed further in consultation with local people, particularly the windsurfing community. This new application will provide extra new beach huts, as well as improving the access and facilities for the windsurfers."

Full details of the application is on the Public Access planning portal on Suffolk Coastal's website at: www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/planning/planning-applications/publicaccess - reference DC/18/3717/FUL - and is open for consultation, ahead of being considered by the Planning Committee.

Seafront Gardens win prestigious award

Felixstowe Seafront Gardens have been awarded a Green Flag Award for the third year running and is officially one of the best parks in the world.

The international award, now into its third decade, is a sign to the public that the www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk

space boasts the highest possible environmental standards, is beautifully maintained and has excellent visitor facilities.

The gardens have also received the much coveted additional Green Heritage Site Accreditation for the



management of the historic features.

Takeaway Gets New Award

Felixstowe's Bounty Fisheries is celebrating being amongst the first takeaway establishments in the County to receive a new award.

The Take Out, Eat Well Award sits alongside the Eat Out, Eat Well scheme. It was launched to recognise takeaway businesses who work hard to provide healthier options for their customers.

Cllr Steve Gallant, Suffolk Coastal's Cabinet Member with responsibility for Community Health, said: "It is great to see Bounty Fisheries is among the very first takeaway restaurants in the county to receive the Take Out, Eat Well award.

"It is a well-deserved recognition of the commitment the staff have all put in to help customers make healthier choices. We hope that other takeaway restaurants in east Suffolk will follow this fantastic example."

In September, awards were presented to five takeaway establishments in east Suffolk who have made changes to their menu:

- Bounty Fisheries, Felixstowe
- Pizza Rosso, Elmswell
- Star Express, Haverhill
- Chinese Chequers, Stowmarket
- Elmswell Fish and Chips, Elmswell

For more information about the Take Out, Eat Well scheme, go to www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/business/food-safety/eat-out-eat-well/

Have your say on air quality

Local people are being asked their views on our first joint air quality report for the Suffolk Coastal and Waveney districts.

The Annual Status Report is produced every year and provides an update on air quality across both districts. The report includes monitoring data for 2017 and details progress on actions to improve air quality across the districts.

The 2018 Annual Status Report confirms that air quality within both districts remains generally good. The Air Quality Objectives are not exceeded at any locations within Waveney and there are just two very specific areas of concern within Suffolk Coastal - the declared Air Quality Management Areas

(AQMAs), one located in Woodbridge and the other on the A12 at Stratford St. Andrew.

The really good news is that our monitoring reveals that the nitrogen dioxide levels within both AQMAs have reduced in recent times to below the standard set by the Government – for the fourth year running in Woodbridge and for the first year in Stratford St. Andrew.

The Consultation on the 2018 Annual Status Report started in October 2018 and we are welcoming feedback from local residents. The report can be found on our website at www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/environmental-protection/air-quality/air-quality-reports/



Alternatively, paper copies are available for viewing at Customer Services in The Marina Centre at Lowestoft and at Beccles, Felixstowe and Woodbridge Libraries.

You can email comments to environment@eastsuffolk.gov.uk.

or post them to: Environmental Protection, East Suffolk House, Station Road, Melton, Woodbridge IP12 1RT.

Please send any comments to us by Friday 18th January 2019.

Ready to burn?

Open fires and wood-burning stoves have risen in popularity in recent years, and as the colder months are now upon us many households will be using theirs for warmth.

Whilst these are both a source of heat and an attractive feature, some people are unaware that using them in the home increases domestic exposure to air pollutants and makes a significant contribution to our national emissions of airborne particulates.

While we will never be able to eliminate all airborne particulates, there are some simple steps that households can

take that will make a big difference to limit emissions both indoor and outdoor.

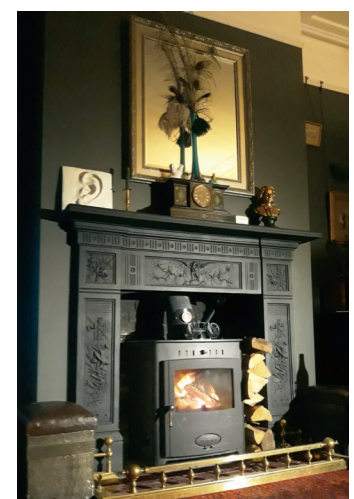
So what can you do?

- Consider burning less
- Only burn dry (seasoned) wood, including certified 'Ready to Burn' (see www.readytoburn.org for more information)
- Burn seasoned (dry) clean wood rather than treated waste wood (such as old furniture and treated pallets)
- Consider using an approved smokeless fuel
- Operate your appliance efficiently by controlling air supply etc.
- Regularly maintain and service your appliance

- Get your chimney swept regularly
- If you're buying a new appliance, check it is Defra approved and installed by a qualified person (see www.hetas.co.uk)

For more information, go to www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/environment/environmental-protection/air-quality/biomass-and-wood-burning/

If you need financial help making your home cheaper to heat, for example with first time central heating, there are a number of schemes you may be eligible for. For more details, go to www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/



visit www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/housing/energy-efficiency/ and www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/housing/grants/renovation-grants/ or contact our Private Sector Housing Team on 01502 523 119 or ps.housing@eastsuffolk.gov

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Woodbridge set for **parking boost**

Woodbridge businesses are set for a boost with the creation of 63 new parking spaces in the town centre.

About £850,000 is being invested to extend parking at The Avenue and Station Road car parks in response to the call for more spaces from local businesses and the Town Council.

“Woodbridge is becoming increasingly popular with visitors and the town centre is thriving, so we had repeated calls to provide extra parking for shoppers and visitors alike,” explained Cllr Carol Poulter, Suffolk Coastal’s Cabinet Member with responsibility for the Green Environment.

“We apologise for any

inconvenience caused by the work, but we need to provide improved parking facilities if the town is to continue to prosper. We have arranged for the work to be carried out at a time to avoid the main tourist season, but realise that Woodbridge is popular all year round, so there will be some people who are put out by the work.”

Work is expected to start on 19 November and will take around eight months to complete. It will be undertaken in four phases, with work starting in The Avenue car park. The public access between The Avenue car park and Station Road car park will be closed during the work, so there will be no access to the river and Kingston Park via this

route for the duration of the project.

The phasing of the work and the siting of main compound area, in the Station Road car park, has been carefully planned to ensure the maximum amount of parking remain available during the work.

While there will be some loss of the current vegetation, the larger trees are being retained and a substantial new planting scheme for new trees and vegetation has been planned to replace anything that is taken out.

Other features, such as an electric charger for two cars, better lighting, new cycle racks, along with the installation of bat and bird boxes



are also programmed in.

Following consultation with local residents, speed humps are being added, to slow traffic down in the car parks.

The recycling bins at Station Road car park will be moved the week before work begins. These will be placed on parking bays directly in front of the fenced area and are accessible throughout the work period.

Woodbridge Skatepark set to expand

Plans are being developed to expand popular Skatepark in Woodbridge.

Following the recent refurbishment of the neighbouring Deben Leisure Centre, the area immediately behind the leisure centre became vacant. This area has been earmarked to expand the space available at Woodbridge Skatepark.

Suffolk Coastal wanted to know what the users would like to see in this additional space, so people were asked to send any ideas to us by 16 November.

Cllr TJ Haworth-Culf, Suffolk Coastal Cabinet Member with responsibility for Customers, Commu-

www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk

nities and Leisure, said: “Woodbridge Skatepark has now been open for a decade and it has proven very popular with young people of all ages and abilities.

“We have been given this fantastic opportunity to expand the area, and we want to use it for something the users would like to see. So thank you to everyone who sent us their ideas. These will all be taken into consideration when the proposed designs are done.”

All ideas received will be shared with a number of skate companies, who will come up with their proposed design based on these. On 16 February



2019, an event will be held where the skate companies present their design ideas to the users, who will vote for their preferred one.

Once the winning design has been chosen, the users will have the opportunity to sit down with the skate company to go through the design and work with them

to make sure they get what they want.

Woodbridge Skatepark was built in 2008, in a partnership between the local community, Woodbridge Town Council, Just 42 Youth Club and Suffolk Coastal District Council. It officially opened in January 2009.

Have your say on polling stations

Residents are invited to comment on the convenience and accessibility of the polling stations used for elections in east Suffolk.

The government requires all councils to undertake a full review of polling stations every four years. This time, an earlier review is required for Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Council's before the elections taking place on 2 May 2019.

As part of the review, a consultation period is open to the public until 30 November 2018, giving everyone the opportunity to comment on the polling stations we use, and their suitability, facilities and accessibility.

Comments made before 30 October 2018 were taken into consideration when the (Acting) Returning Officer

(ARO), Stephen Baker, Chief Executive of Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils, commented on the current arrangements and proposed changes.

The ARO's report was published on 31 October 2018 and is open for public consultation until 30 November 2018.

The final proposals will be presented and considered at a full meeting of the East Suffolk Shadow Council on 28 January 2019.

Comments or representations can be made in writing to: Electoral Services, Suffolk Coastal District Council, East Suffolk House, Riduna Park, Station Road, Melton, Woodbridge IP12 1RT



or Electoral Services, Waveney District Council, 2 Canning Road, Lowestoft, NR33 0EQ or by email to elections@eastsuffolk.gov.uk

More details about the review and a schedule showing the current polling district areas

and their allocated polling station venues can be found on the East Suffolk website: www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/elections/review-of-polling-districts-polling-places-and-polling-stations-2018/

For more information, please contact the Electoral Services Team on **01394 444 685** or **01502 523 238**.

New councillor elected for Wenhaston and Westleton



The residents of Wenhaston and Westleton have a new district councillor to represent them.

Councillor Michael Gower (Conservative) from Wenhaston, won with 431 votes in the by-election in September.

To see the full results from the vote, go to www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/assets/Elections/Election-notices-SCDC/2018/Wenhaston-and-Westleton-Ward-By-Election-20-Sep-2018/01-Declaration-of-Result-of-Poll.pdf

New legislation deadline passed for Houses in Multiple Occupation

Suffolk Coastal are urging landlords to come forward if they believe they are affected by recent Government changes to the licensing of House of Multiple Occupation (HMOs).

As of 1 October 2018, landlords who let an HMO to five or more people must be licenced by their local housing authority. Previously only landlords operating HMOs that were three storeys or more, with five or more tenants, had to be licenced.

Anyone who fail to comply with the new Government regulations on HMOs are committing an offence under



the Housing Act 2004.

If you are a tenant who lives with four or more other people, and are concerned that the property you live in may not be licenced, or are a landlord who wants to find out more, please visit www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/hmo or contact the Private Sector Housing team on **01502 562111**.

 @eastsuffolkcouncils

Make paper bills a thing of the past.

Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils are committed to providing a quick, easy and secure online service to residents.

“Paper billing is slow, wasteful and costly. Like the dinosaurs, we can make paper Council Tax bills a thing of the past”, explained Terri Lawson, Operations Manager – Revenues.

“Signing up for online billing is quick, easy and secure, not to mention better for the environment.”

Benefits of going paperless include the ability to sign up to direct debit and make Council Tax transactions and payments online, at any time of the day or night from any device.

You can also check when

payments are due; payments made and view overpayments; make claims for Council Tax discounts and Housing Benefit; update your information and inform us of any changes to your circumstances.

Sign up and win!

Anyone signing up to paperless billing will automatically be entered into a monthly price draw and could win £20 worth of shopping vouchers!

Sign up now at www.angliarevenues.gov.uk/online/

This service is provided through the Anglia Revenues Partnership

The Anglia Revenues Partnership (ARP) is a group of seven councils, including Suffolk Coastal and Waveney, who are working

together to provide high-quality, shared revenue services to their residents.

By working together through this partnership, the councils are reducing costs and providing a more efficient, effective service.

The aim of the partnership is to run an efficient Council Tax and Housing Benefits service, while reducing administration costs to each partner council. By working together, and pooling our staff and resources, each council has achieved significant savings.

The Anglia Revenues Partnership is now the largest

revenues partnership in England.

Since ARP went live with its online services in 2017, nearly 9,000 people in east Suffolk have signed up with us through the secure website at: www.angliarevenues.gov.uk/online/



Contact Us

You can do much more at: www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk, it's quick, easy and cost effective.

Email: customerservices@eastsuffolk.gov.uk

General enquiries: 01394 383789

Council Tax: 01394 444855

Housing Benefit: 01394 444838

- Monday to Wednesday 8:45am - 5pm
- Thursday 9:30am - 5pm
- Friday 8:45am - 5pm

Minicom/textphone: 01394 444211

Tweet and follow us: [@eastsuffolk](https://twitter.com/eastsuffolk)

www.facebook.com/eastsuffolkcouncil

www.linkedin.com/company/eastsuffolkcouncil/

www.youtube.com/channel/UCuAEAQUUSLjz_6qqJWt5Swg

Instagram: [@eastsuffolkcouncils](https://www.instagram.com/eastsuffolkcouncils)

Visit us

Suffolk Coastal Customer Services is based within the community through Felixstowe and Woodbridge Libraries and staff are available to handle enquiries face to face, over the phone and email.

From the library locations we have public access computers and free Wi-Fi.

District Council Customer Services –

Woodbridge Library, New Street, Woodbridge, IP12 1DT

Opening times:

- 8.45am – 5pm Monday to Wednesday
- 9.30am – 5pm on Thursday
- 8.45am – 5pm on Friday
- Citizens Advice Bureau drop in session Monday 10am-12pm

District Council Customer Services –

Felixstowe Library, Crescent Road, Felixstowe IP11 7BY

Opening times:

- 10am – 4pm on Mondays
- 9am – 5pm Tuesdays to Fridays

- Citizens Advice Bureau drop in session, Monday 10am-12pm

For refuse collection and recycling enquiries contact Suffolk Coastal Norse Ltd

Telephone: 01394 444000

Email: scs@ncsgrp.gov.uk

Leisure centres (managed by Places for People Leisure)

- Deben 01394 388991
- Felixstowe 01394 670411
- Brackenbury 01394 270278

Christmas opening hours:

- 8:45 - 2pm on 24/12
- Closed on 25/12 - 26/12 and 1/1
- Normal opening hours on 27/12 - 31/12

Back to normal opening hours from 2/1-2019

We are closed on all bank holidays

Out-of-hours emergency telephone service

Contact both Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils on:
01502 527133.

This edition of coastline is also available in large print, on audio tape or CD for blind or partially-sighted residents. Call 01394 444361

Honour Run 2018 success



The first ever Honour Run proved to be a great success when it took place on 21 October 2018.

Around 250 walkers, joggers and runners of all ages took part in the run and raised a total of £2,600 for the Suffolk British Legion Poppy Appeal, which supports serving and

retired men and women in the armed forces.

“This is the first time we’ve put on this kind of event and it was a huge success. Thank you to everyone who took part in the run and all the volunteers who helped us run the event”, said Cllr TJ Haworth-Culf, Suffolk Coastal’s Cabinet

Member with responsibility for Customers, Communities and Leisure.

“We raised £2,600 for the Suffolk British Legion Poppy Appeal which is fantastic. We even got some exercise and fresh air while doing so - what better way to spend a Sunday morning?”

The event was organised by Suffolk Coastal District Council and Suffolk British Legion with thanks going to the Forestry Commission and Rock Barracks who supported the event by letting us use the facilities.

Local companies also got involved by contributing to goodie bags for everyone who crossed the finishing line. These include East of England Co-op, Farm Field Crisps, Munchy Seeds and Places Leisure.

The run took place in Rendlesham Forest, which was established during the First World War when Britain had an increasing demand for timber.

The Royal British Legion is leading the nation in the Thank You movement – to say thank you to the WW1 generation who served, sacrificed and changed the world we live in today. #Thankyou100

