

Introduction

The Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy <u>reports</u> that the UK is on track for meeting the second carbon budget. At the Carbon Trust Public Sector Conference 2017 the challenge of meeting the third and fourth was raised and Michael Rea noted that we need a step change approach not a nudge approach if we are to lead economically and environmentally. Greater Manchester, Nottingham and London highlighted significant progress and learning in <u>retrofitting</u>, <u>renewables</u>, <u>transport</u>, <u>energy</u> etc. but stressed need for robust evidence at every stage and strong central government policy that incentivises and does not prevent local ability to act to reduce emissions.

For the cricket fans amongst you: Lord's has become the first cricket ground in the country to run on 100% renewable energy, as <u>new figures</u> reveal the increasing disruption to cricket caused by extreme weather patterns linked to climate change. This <u>report</u> also highlights impacts of extreme weather felt by farms, businesses, wildlife and habitats.

Our Updates

With apologies for any inconvenience due to low uptake we have had to cancel, until further notice, the event 'Funny Weather We Are Having' which was to be held on Thursday, 2 March 2017 at Suffolk Coastal's offices at East Suffolk House, Station Road, Melton, Woodbridge IP12 1RT. To help us understand why more people had not booked on this given that it was requested by members please can you **all** complete this <u>survey</u>.

If you are interested please book onto the following events as soon as possible to ensure they can go ahead. **Book each via Eventbrite link or phone 01394 444747**

Saturday 4 March 2pm—4pm A Wild Greet in Aldeburgh

Thursday 30 March 1pm — 4pm Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) Visit

Wednesday 26 April 10.00 - 12.00 Energy-from-waste (EfW) Visit

Monday 3 July 7pm - 9pm - Greenprint Forum—Community Self Builds focus

Monday 25 September 7pm - 9pm - Greenprint Forum—Waste and water focus



Hold the date

Two more important dates for your diaries:

Friday 6 October 2017 The Suffolk Coast Forum—Valuing our Coast. Trinity Park Conference Centre, Bucklesham.

Friday 10 November 2017 The East Suffolk Partnership Conference. Trinity Park Conference Centre, Bucklesham.

Encourage friends and family to discover Suffolk without a car

Cycling, walking and horse riding can be fabulous low impact ways of using our leisure time and exploring nature. 2017 marks The <u>Suffolk Walking Festivals</u> 10th Birthday with over 100 walks on offer. If you like to go it alone there are numerous guides online including: <u>Discover Suffolk</u>, <u>Suffolk Coast & Heaths Cycling and walking guides</u> and John Harris' Walking in... <u>Guides</u>

Can't walk or cycle to the start point? Why not combine with the train, public transport or car sharing to make your journey's as low impact as possible. Plan it using Suffolk Car Share

Talking of cars - we all need to ensure we are following the highway code at all times. It doesn't hurt to refresh our memories of it every now and then but also to go above and beyond:

- Sustrans <u>simple guide</u> regarding cycling.
- A reminder and simple technique for us as drivers to ensure we do not 'door' cyclists



Ambassador Shout Out

Community Give and Take Day - volunteers

We need two people willing to help man the check in and check out at the dates and times given below. We also need up to six people willing to join us in promoting the events the areas in the two weeks preceding (we may well combine this with a litter pick if there is sufficient interest).

Monday 19 April 2017 Royal British Legion, 39 Mill Ln, Felixstowe, IP11 2NL Monday 24 July 2017 Whitton Residents Community Hall, Hawthorn Avenue Lowestoft, NR33 9BB

Both days: 9:00- 11:00am donations, 12:00-2:00 picking stuff up.

These events will be carried out in partnership with Suffolk Coastal Norse, Suffolk Waste Partnership, Whitton Lodge Residents Association, Royal British Legion, Ipswich Furniture project and the Benjamin Foundation. They will run using this <u>guide</u> but with the addition of working electrical items as we will have PAT testers in.

If you have contacts in the area or live within a reasonable distance and have items to donate do bring them along/encourage them to come on the day

If you are interested in helping with these events please email greenissues@eastsuffolk.gov.uk



Free Composting Training for New Master Composter Volunteers!

If you are a keen gardener, would like to learn a new skill or just want to do your bit to help the environment and others, then don't miss out on this opportunity to join our wonderful band of green fingered volunteers! Suffolk Master Composters are recruiting for new volunteers and are offering a FREE two-day training course in March. You will learn everything you need to know about composting and how to share this knowledge with others, as well as having lots of fun with other like-minded individuals!

All sessions take place at Stowmarket Community Centre, Hillside, Stowmarket.

Day 1: Saturday 18th March

Day 2: either Sunday 19th or Tuesday 21st March

In return for free training, access to resources, travel expenses and on-going support, volunteers are asked to commit to 30 hours composting promotion through a wide range of activities; attending events, visiting schools, writing articles or talking to community groups around the county.

Contact Craig Renton on 07736 950634 or mastercomposters@suffolk.gov.uk to book your place.



Reward for litter pickers

The 'Love East Suffolk' litter pick scheme is back for 2017 to encourage, enable and reward people to show some love for the environment we live in. Last year the incentive based community litter pick scheme helped clean up over 7.6 tonnes of waste across Suffolk Coastal and Waveney whilst also giving groups funding to spend in their community.

To incentivise even more groups of volunteers to help litter pick in East Suffolk, the Love East Suffolk scheme offers a £20 payment to all groups who <u>register</u> their litter pick to take place between 1 March to 31 May 2017. All registered groups who carry out their pick during this period will also be entered into a prize draw, with prizes of £200 awarded to winning groups in each of five 'neighbourhood areas' in Suffolk Coastal and in each of four 'neighbourhood areas' in Waveney with funding once again provided by Norse.

The scheme ties in with the <u>Great British Spring Clean</u> taking place 3 – 5 March which aims to bring together people from across the country to clean up litter that blights our towns, villages, countryside and coastline.

Is your business prepared for emergencies?

The <u>Business Efficient Resilience Toolkit</u> (BERT) has been developed by the Suffolk Coastal Management Team, Groundwork Suffolk, Joint Emergency Planning Unit, Environment Agency and other partner agencies to provide businesses with a free means to assess and develop their own business continuity plans.

The practical and easy to follow process helps you ask the questions today that will enable you to respond effectively to impacts on your activities that sit outside of normal business plans in the future, providing significant long term resilience.

Quite simply, do it today, have a plan in place and be in forward looking position to maintain and increase business opportunities after an emergency incident affecting your business, your customers or your suppliers.



How looking after your pipes helps protect your local rivers and beaches!

Many people don't realise that by following a few simple steps in the home there is something that we can all do to help protect our local rivers and beaches from pollution

Please do the following to help prevent public sewers from blocking:

- Put used cooking oil and fats in the bin (or recycle them), not down the drain
- Scrape left over food on pots and pans into the bin before washing
- Use a sink strainer to stop hair etc. going down your plug hole
- Put all wipes, used sanitary protection and other bathroom waste in the bin, not down the toilet

Wipes are not flushable, even if the label says they are. They may flush down your toilet bowl but they don't break up in the pipe. They combine with other waste such as fat, cooking oil, sanitary pads and cotton buds in the sewers to cause blockages.

When a public sewer blocks the sewage may back up and spill somewhere. To prevent houses from flooding internally the sewage may spill to a local river or beach instead.

If you are on a sceptic tank you will know all of this and no doubt monitor it very carefully, however if owning a sceptic tank is new to you or you need a refresher the Environment Agency produced this <u>guide</u> a while ago.



Suffolk Tipping Action Group Update:

This group aims to reduce fly-tipping across the county through the 'Tip-Off: stop fly-tipping in Suffolk' campaign.

A 36 year old man from Ipswich has been successfully prosecuted for fly-tipping and waste offences committed in both Babergh and Mid Suffolk during 2016. Gorham attended court and pleaded guilty to all four charges. The court took into account Mr Gorham's guilty plea before ordering him to pay penalties including a £400 fine, £590.44 clearance costs and £1,150 investigation and legal costs.

Individuals and Businesses have specific legal responsibilities in respect of waste. For further information, please visit http://www.greensuffolk.org/recycling/fly-tipping/.

Energy update from Vilnis Vesma

Be wary of unsubstantiated claims regarding energy saving . One example he quotes relates to fibrous insulation blanket faced with foil 'adding further layers of reflective foil within the insulation does not then mean more is reflected back . Only the outer layer reflects heat, and no thermal radiation passes through it to impinge on the second layer. Even if any radiant heat did pass through the outer foil, it would be absorbed by the insulating material behind which the next foil layer is concealed. Radiant heat can only pass between surfaces that are visible to each other.'

If you have information that you think will be of use to other members just email a few lines explaining what it would be about to greenissues@eastsuffolk.gov.uk and await further guidance.

Please do circulate this information widely and encourage others to become Greenprint Forum members.