

EAST SUFFOLK BUSINESS PLAN 2015 - 2023



CASE STUDY

ENABLING COMMUNITIES

THRIVING COMMUNITY BUILDINGS

Our Business Plan sets out a vision where we build resilient, strong communities who look after their services and value their rural and coastal heritage.

eastsuffolk.gov.uk/east-suffolk-business-plan



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 01394 383789 (Suffolk Coastal) / 01502 562111 (Waveney)



Beccles Library, Blyburgate, Beccles
Felixstowe Library, Crescent Road, Felixstowe
Marina Centre, Marina, Lowestoft
Woodbridge Library, New Street, Woodbridge

HELPING COMMUNITIES IMPROVE LOCAL FACILITIES



WHAT WE DID?

The innovative Thriving Community Buildings (TCB) project (2016-2018) offered 63 east Suffolk communities with assistance to build resilience through their community buildings. Initiated by the Greenprint Forum and developed and delivered by Groundwork with support from Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils, the project was funded by the East Suffolk Partnership, Suffolk County Council and Suffolk Coast and Healths AONB, with additional support from Community Action Suffolk, Environment Agency and Suffolk Climate Change Partnership.

TCB offered communities help with resource efficiency, renewable energy, energy management, health and safety, governance, safeguarding, financial management and fundraising, business planning, employment and emergency support.

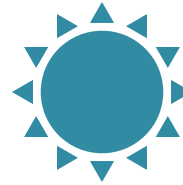
Village hall representatives were contacted directly by Groundwork, and prioritised for support level and content dependent on need. A key strength was strong partnership working, access to high levels of professional skills across the offer and connections with funding providers.

"This input has been incredibly helpful, providing useful evidence, clear changes we can implement, and an extensive list of potential follow-up funding."

- SIMON PAYLOR
RINGSFIELD HALL TRUST

WHY WE DID IT?

Well managed, accessible and energy efficient community buildings can support health and wellbeing activities and increase social inclusion and community cohesion. This meets a key aim within the Councils Business plan.



78% OF COMMUNITIES
HAVE IMPLEMENTED
ACTIONS FOLLOWING
THEIR THRIVING
COMMUNITY BUILDINGS
REPORT



**Thriving
Community
Buildings**



THE DIFFERENCE THIS MADE?

This project has helped the dedicated volunteers who run these halls implement at least 48 improvement measures including: improved governance and procedures, solar PV installations, improved insulation, LED lighting, replacing storage heaters with modern electric convector heaters and improved wildlife habitats.

171 further actions are in progress or planned, all of which will help the halls functionally, financially and/or reduce environmental cost. Carbon savings were not calculated for all support offered but based on those implemented, in progress and planned over 75 Tonnes will be saved per year.