

intouch

with you and Waveney, July 2017

**Funding
boosts**

Celebrating the
award of crucial funding
for a number of
fantastic projects in
Waveney



Councillor Colin Law
Our tribute



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New Director to take council forward



Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils are delighted to confirm the appointment of Nick Khan as Strategic Director. Following a rigorous selection process, led by councillors, Nick emerged as the outstanding candidate and is taking up his position in July.

Nick is currently an Executive Director with Rochford District Council in Essex. He is a qualified private and public sector lawyer and, alongside the Managing Director, leads

the authority's senior management team. Stephen Baker, Chief Executive of Suffolk Coastal and Waveney, said: "We could not be happier to appoint a person of Nick's calibre to a critical role during a hugely important period in the history of the two councils. He has considerable, relevant experience which will complement the skills we have in place, while also strengthening our ability to deliver our ambitions for east Suffolk.

"Nick stood out as a candidate and he is clearly excited by the opportunities that east Suffolk presents. We were very impressed, not only by his experience, but also by his enthusiasm and determination to deliver our priorities and we look forward to him taking up his post in July."

Nick has been appointed to fill a vacancy created by the departure of Arthur Charvonia to take up the role of joint Chief Executive for Babergh and Mid Suffolk councils. Complementing his broad strategic role, he will also have specific responsibility for Environmental Services and Port Health, ICT, Planning and Building Control, Coastal Partnership East and Communities.

[New Leader and Cabinet - full details, page 5](#)

Youth project funding available now!

Do you run or manage youth activity programmes and would like access to crucial funding? We may be able to help!

The East Suffolk Youth Priority Action Group (ESYPAG) has now launched the fourth round of funding for their youth holiday activities programme.

The aim of the programme is to improve the variety of opportunities available to young people aged between school years 7 – 13 (ages 11-18 years) in east Suffolk, with the East Suffolk Partnership providing £50,000 in funding to support the initiative over the next two years.

Since the launch of the programme, activities like pizza making, a radio workshop, drama productions, team building days and beach activities have been run. Some of these being a one off event and others running over a period of several days.

Activity providers across Suffolk Coastal and Waveney are being asked to involve and provide not just sport, but also activities promoting the arts, science as well as activities to improve skills, as well as

activities aimed at young disabled people.

This round of funding will be used to organise projects taking place during October Half Term and Christmas holidays 2017 and can be applied by youth organisations across east Suffolk.

The project builds on the work of the ESYPAG who has been working since 2015 to support and develop youth participation in Suffolk Coastal and Waveney, with final decisions on successful applications being made by a panel of young people.

The deadline for applications is Friday 18 August.

For more details and to apply, visit:

www.eastsuffolkpartnership.org.uk/home/priorities/esypag



Local Plan for jobs, growth and a bright future

Work is progressing on the delivery of a new Local Plan for the District and we want YOUR views in the coming months. The new Local Plan will set out how our towns and villages will grow and change, including identifying land for new housing, employment, retail and community uses.

In 2016, Waveney District Council published a number of options for the new Local Plan. This included around 200 sites put forward by landowners and developers for possible future development, and generated over 3,400 comments from local residents and businesses.

Having considered all the comments received and looked at the sites in detail, a first draft Local Plan, which looks to 2036, is currently being prepared and is expected to be published for consultation soon.

We would really like to hear what you think about the first draft plan. In particular, we'd like to know the following:

- Does the plan reflect your ideas about the future of your community?
- Have we identified the most suitable sites for new homes and employment?
- Are the policies suitable to help determine planning applications?

Cllr Mark Bee, Leader of Waveney

District Council believes people should really take this fantastic opportunity to have their say on the future of development in Waveney.

He said: "As a key part of our joint Business Plan for East Suffolk, we are entirely committed to creating the right environment for economic growth, bringing jobs, housing and prosperity to the area. When the consultation begins on the proposals laid out in the first draft Local Plan, residents, businesses and communities will have the chance to influence some of the most important decisions this Council can take."

To find out more about the new Local Plan, visit our website at www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/newwaveneylocalplan, email waveneylocalplan@eastsuffolk.gov.uk or call 01502 523029 / 523068. Alternatively, visit one of the exhibitions in Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth, Reydon and Lowestoft during the consultation.



Timetable for the new Local Plan

First Draft Local Plan

End of July to September 2017

Final Draft Local Plan

Winter 2017

Independent Examination

Early 2018

Adoption

Spring

2018

For regular updates, join the Local Plan mailing list
www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/newwaveneylocalplan

“A historic decision for our communities”



Hailed by Council Leaders in Suffolk as a 'historic day', an agreement to formally merge has been reached by two district councils for the first time since local government reorganisation in 1974.

Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils have both approved proposals to create a brand new 'super district' council, delivering services to communities across east Suffolk and will now work with the Department of Communities and

Local Government to begin the formal process of merger. With the Secretary of State's agreement, the new Council would then hold elections, and commence operations, in 2019. Suffolk Coastal approved the proposals at a Full Council meeting on Thursday January 26 2017, a day after Waveney councillors voted in favour of the merger - and both Council Leaders recognise the significance of this decision.

Cllr Ray Herring, Leader of Suffolk Coastal District Council said: "This is a historic day for local government, for Suffolk and, most importantly, the communities we serve. By creating a new, larger and more influential council, we will be able to keep costs down, enabling us to maintain and improve the services that local people depend on. "Working in partnership has already helped the councils save over £16m since 2010. However, further savings cannot be made unless the

partnership progresses further. A new, merged, council will be better placed to address the shared challenges that both councils face." The late Cllr Colin Law, Leader of Waveney District Council at the time of the decision said: "Our councils have made history today and I could not be more delighted. We already have a joint 'East Suffolk Business Plan' which sets out our vision for the future of the area and a new council is a natural development reflecting important, shared similarities and challenges. "This decision will enable us to withstand significant reductions in Central Government funding for councils and better address key issues such as the need for investment in growth and infrastructure projects and increasing housing demand and costs." Stephen Baker, Chief Executive for the two councils, has been in post since 2008 and is looking forward to a bright future for the new council. He said: "The challenge facing local government throughout the country is the need and desire to deliver the best possible services for local people in an increasingly challenging economic environment. At Suffolk Coastal and Waveney we have always sought to tackle these challenges head on. This is another excellent example of how we have taken a lead and made a progressive decision which we have no doubt will be watched and followed by other councils."

New councils, 40 years in the making

Following the historic decision taken earlier this year, the newly created Parish Councils for Lowestoft and Oulton Broad have held their first ever meetings.

There are approximately 28,000 households in Lowestoft and Oulton Broad and these new councils have been created following recommendations from a review which was carried out by Waveney District Council in 2016. For over 40 years, residents in Lowestoft and Oulton Broad have missed out on having the additional resources and level of representation that a town/parish council brings to an area. Cllr Ben Falat (right, top) was elected as Chair of the Oulton Broad parish council, with Cllr Ian Graham (right, bottom) elected Chair of the new Lowestoft council. Cllr Falat said "It is an honour to be elected as the Chair of the Council. It is right that local people will now be able to take full control of important local assets and services. We have much hard work ahead but we know it will be worth it."

Meanwhile Cllr Graham paid tribute to Cllr Colin Law following his sad passing on days

before."He was an influential and hard-working councillor and remained active in his role as a councillor for the area until his unexpected death this weekend. On behalf of the Council I would like to express our sincere condolences to his family for their sad loss."

The establishment of both Councils involved a range of formal and essential processes at this meeting including forming a committee structure to deal with its business, the adoption of their assets,, adoption of the rules governing their financial and decision-making arrangements, the appointment of their interim officers and the adoption of key policies.

Meanwhile, Lowestoft Town Council will also elect councillors to four vacancies (Gunton - 1 vacancy; Pakefield – 2 vacancies; and St Margaret's – 1 vacancy). These vacancies will be filled through an application process to the Council with selection at one of the next meetings. Local residents who are interested in being considered for a vacancy should contact the Clerk for further details: Shona Bendix ceo@salc.org.uk 01473 833713.



A great councillor and a great friend



It was with the very greatest sadness that Waveney District Council recently announced the passing of Cllr Colin Law, Leader of the Council, following a short battle with illness.

Cllr Law died at the age of 74, leaving his wife, Deanna, two daughters, three grandchildren and a great-grandchild. Everyone at the Council was stunned by the loss of both a successful and influential Leader and warm, friendly and well-liked man.

Cllr Law recently announced his intention to stand down as Leader of the Council but had fully intended to see out his term as a district councillor until 2019. Cllr Mark Bee who was subsequently elected as the new Council Leader, said: "I have known Colin for over 15 years and in all that time he has been a Councillor on Waveney and also Suffolk County Council. For the last six years he has been Waveney's Leader, having succeeded me in 2011. He has been an extremely hard working public figure and community leader and even during his recent illness he attended events and meetings and participated with his usual enthusiasm and determination.

"He was also a man of great kindness and a dry sense of humour, with an infectious laugh. Waveney has lost a great councillor and all of us who knew him have lost a great friend. He will be greatly missed by those on all sides of the political divide."

Alan Green on behalf of the Labour Group said that Cllr Law "had a great passion for the future of Waveney and we will miss him enormously", while Cllr Nick Webb, the outgoing Mayor of Lowestoft and new Vice Chairman of the council added that he was a "great support when I first arrived. A real friend, very humble. We've lost a great servant."

It was the sombre task of Chief Executive Stephen Baker to announce the news to staff. Mr Baker added: "Colin Law was leader of Waveney District Council during a period of considerable improvement, change, achievement and delivery. I'm confident he will be remembered for leading the Council through a remarkable period in its history, and I fully expect the tributes to him will recognise that. Colin was a pleasure to work with; a tireless and enthusiastic public servant who had a great working relationship with staff. He respected them and the feeling was absolutely mutual.

"Colin recognised that the staff shared his enthusiasm, his passion, for getting the best for Waveney. He respected and valued them and they had huge respect for him in return. His drive and commitment were second to none. His sense of humour and humanity made him a pleasure to know."

At Waveney's Annual Council Meeting, Cllr Mark Bee was elected the new Leader of Waveney District council. It was an emotional evening, with thoughts very much with Cllr Colin Law's family and friends.

Cllr Law had been due to step down at this meeting and Cllr Bee (right, top) paid tribute to his friend and colleague and pledged to ensure that his achievements laid the foundations for a bright and prosperous future in the district.

The new Leader also confirmed the make-up of his first Cabinet, with Cllr Craig Rivett (right, bottom) joining the team for the first time and new roles for Chris Punt and Bruce Provan who return to the Executive. Meanwhile Cllr Frank Mortimer is the new Chairman of the council and Cllr Nick Webb is the new deputy Chair. Cllr Bee previously led the Council between 2004 and 2011 before taking up the

Leadership role at Suffolk County Council and told Annual Council that he is excited by the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead. He said: "This is a very different Council to the one I led until 2011 and so much has been achieved thanks to the Leadership of Cllr Colin Law, who was a real finisher and helped us to make such fantastic progress.

"In due course, I will lay out my plans for the Council but for now, I would just like to say that I am a Waveney man who very much wants to see the best for the people of this district. As we move forward, the interests of Waveney will be absolutely paramount and I would like to thank you for the trust you have put in me." With thoughts of Cllr Law never far away, Councillors signed the book of condolence at Riverside and many took the opportunity to pay their own personal tributes to the former Leader.



Huge funding boost for East of England Park

Waveney District Council, local businesses and community groups are celebrating a huge financial boost from the Government for the East of England Park, including Lowestoft Ness.

The Council - working on behalf of the Lowestoft Coastal Communities Team (CCT) - have been awarded £1 million to regenerate the East of England Park. The site is located off Whapload Road, adjacent to the Birds Eye factory, and the project aims to transform this underutilised location into an exciting new park and community space which celebrates the history of the area. The location also includes the seafront walkway and the most easterly point in the UK, Lowestoft Ness. Lowestoft faced stiff competition for the funding with 248 applications from across the country made to the government's Coastal Communities Fund. £80m-worth of projects were competing for £38.1m of funding and yet the strength of the Lowestoft bid, put forward by the town's CCT has ensured that the full sum will be delivered. The project will improve access, knowledge, participation and enjoyment of the

area and its unique maritime heritage. There will be new 'wayfinders', entry points and improved cycling and pedestrian linkages. The green space will come to life as a new cultural events space for commercial, educational and community activities where revenue opportunities will be realised, including festivals, outdoor cinema and concession stands. Project activities will also include infrastructure for sports and leisure that will complement the CCT's aspirations to promote the area as an active seafront. The project will be completed by December 2019. The CCT was formed in 2015, supported by funding from the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG). The team comprises representatives from local authorities, organisations and businesses from across Lowestoft, who have an interest in improving and promoting the town. Partners include Waveney District Council, Lowestoft Rising, Lowestoft Vision, Kirkley Business Association, Lowestoft Tourism Group, the Claremont Pier, the South Pier Trust, Marina Theatre, and Community Action Suffolk.

About CCTs



In order to enable local coastal communities to come together and develop a common vision and plans for their area, the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) established a network of Coastal Community Teams. These teams bring together a range of local stakeholders from the local authority, community and business groups to help coordinate regeneration projects in their area and help develop an effective strategy. Within East Suffolk there are now five Coastal Community Teams who were each awarded £10,000 to initially kick-start their activity - in the Deben Peninsula, Felixstowe, Leiston, Lowestoft and Southwold.

Southwold funding



Following an announcement by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG), Southwold has been awarded Coastal Community status.

The town has been selected to have their own dedicated Coastal Community Team (CCT), bringing together local people, councils, volunteers and businesses to work together to

drive forward future economic growth and prosperity in coastal areas. Alongside Southwold, Leiston was also awarded the status and they will join three existing CCTs already working in east Suffolk; Deben, Felixstowe and Lowestoft. Cllr Michael Ladd, Waveney's cabinet member for Tourism, Economic Development and Rural Affairs said: "We are delighted that Southwold

will now have its own Coastal Community Team. As already evident in Felixstowe, Deben and Lowestoft, CCTs enable our coastal towns to take control of coordinating projects and activity to guide the development of their local economy."

The Government is committed to supporting coastal communities and has so far funded 118 CCTs across the UK, giving £1.18m to help drive coastal growth. Leiston and Southwold CCTs will each receive £10,000 from the DCLG to help create an economic plan to provide a focus on prioritising the key economic issues facing the towns.

Designing a seafront future

Lowestoft's Coastal Communities Team has received a fantastic boost thanks to the vision of international designer Wayne Hemingway.

Working with Waveney District Council, Wayne invited Lowestoft's business and community leaders together to an event at the Hotel Victoria earlier this year to share his wealth of experience about regenerating seafront towns. Wayne, who founded the multi-disciplinary design agency Hemingway Design said: "Lowestoft has great potential and there are things we can improve without spending a lot of money. As always there are barriers and there are people who don't want to believe or feel disillusioned, but this is about opening minds to try new things. He added: "The power of imagery is amazing. People take pictures now more than ever so architecture and design are important. You can see the town has intrinsic beauty and the scenery is special. We need to make sure there are different things along the promenade that make people keep walking along to find out what the next thing is."

The designer's thoughts and ideas

were well received by the local businesses in attendance. Wayne wants people to be brave and to welcome new ideas and the general mood indicated that local people are receptive to fresh ideas which will help boost the visitor economy.

He has previous experience working on the Dreamland amusement park in Margate, which regenerated the seaside resort, and showed why the adoption of such philosophies can create new businesses, jobs and attract more visitors. The main focus for Lowestoft is the coastal strip from Royal Plain to Pakefield, however it is also planned that any project could consider schemes elsewhere in the town.

It was thanks to Waveney District Council's Head of Operations, Kerry Blair, that Wayne came to Lowestoft, having contacted him after seeing the success of his other coastal regeneration projects.

Kerry said: "Wayne has had an impact in driving new visitors into seaside towns and we have an opportunity here that cannot be allowed to slip through our fingers. One of the largest barriers is the belief that this change can't happen here."



Beach hut boost for local economy

A fantastic range of new beach huts in Pakefield are proving hugely popular and providing a real boost for the local economy.

In partnership with Sentinel Leisure Trust, Waveney installed the units this year and they have all sold out with owners absolutely delighted by their purchase.

Cllr Michael Ladd, Cabinet Member for Economic Development said: "Beach huts are an essential part of the British Coast this range of outstanding new beach huts at Pakefield is the perfect place to experience the best of the British seaside holiday. People have come from around the eastern region to enjoy them and are spending money for the benefit of local businesses. With a real business focus, we are always looking to create new offerings which

also benefit and support local communities and this success may be just the beginning."

Anne Neil who owns and rents out two huts said: "My association with the seafront goes back a long way and I purchased this hut, as for the past few years, I have been using the local area as a photoshoot location for my fashion business. My experience has been very happy and positive. We really enjoy the natural surroundings, but also the restaurants, the Tea shop, the little coffee van, the Sunrise Cafe and even the Claremont Pier as a destination for a great 'pit stop' after a walk. From a personal point of view, we have met so many new people, and realised even more, that we live and enjoy such a friendly beach side community." Zoe Hockings said: "We jumped at the chance of getting a beach hut in Pakefield as soon as

we knew it was possible! It is the beach I grew up on and I have a huge emotional connection to Pakefield. It also has the benefit of an absolutely beautiful beach and the experience so far has been an absolute pleasure. We have visited Pakefield about twice a week since buying the hut and this is a huge increase in the amount of times we usually visit.

"The community springing up along the stretch of huts is wonderful, we chat to new people each day we are there and there is a real buzz around the place. Listening to kids walking past talking about which hut is their favourite colour and hearing people talk about how much they have brightened up the place.

"The beach huts have brought the place alive and the footfall along that stretch of beach has increased massively."

Get set for summer with free fun!



Waveney District Council's popular programme of free children's activities is returning to Lowestoft for a fifth consecutive summer this year.

The summer activities, designed for children aged between nine and sixteen are organised by Waveney District Council's Communities Team and will run during the school summer holidays.

The activities will take place each Tuesday and Thursday on Lowestoft's award-winning South Beach. Over the five week period, activities will include boxing, tag rugby, dodgeball, cricket, rounders, futsal and giant volleyball.

Cllr Mary Rudd, Cabinet Member for Community Health and Safety, said: "Our free summer activities are always popular and offer local children the chance to get outside, be active and stay occupied over the school holidays. Last year's activities were our most successful to date. We hope that this year's activities are just as

popular. All events are offered on a 'first come first served' basis and whilst booking is not required for any of the activities, parental consent must be given. Consent forms will be available online from the East Suffolk Communities Facebook page.

The summer activities are organised by the Communities Team and delivered by Positive Futures (Catch 22).

Michael Chaplin, Project Co-ordinator for Positive Futures (Catch 22) said: "The free summer beach activities allow young people the chance to mix with new peers, try new sports and stay active. The coaches work with attendees to boost confidence, communication and team work skills whilst most importantly keeping the activities fun and keeping smiles on young people's faces."

Last year's event celebrated the Rio Olympics, with the final day hosting a series of Olympic themed activities, including Brazilian dancing, creating a carnival feel along the beautiful South Beach.



Working together to get Suffolk on Screen

Just five months after launching to the industry, Suffolk's new one-stop service for filming in council-owned locations, Screen Suffolk, is already seeing increased interest in the county, and there is no doubt that momentum is building around the screen industries in Suffolk.

Within just the last few weeks, Sherlock star Benedict Cumberbatch has been filming at Shingle Street, and author and screenwriter Anthony Horowitz has hailed Suffolk as a great place to make film.

Screen Suffolk, who now manage filming and photography at all council-owned locations (as well as some private), supported 37 filming days in March and April alone; this puts them firmly on track to meet their target of attracting 100 filming days to the county in their first year.

The screen industries can bring significant direct and indirect benefits to a region. In 2015, the number of productions filming in the English regions increased by 37 percent, amounting to £93 million on-location spend and over 7,700 days of work for crew. Screen Suffolk's mission is to make Suffolk the most film-friendly county in the UK, and in turn, to attract our share of these benefits. Many in the county are already getting involved and Screen Suffolk is calling for all industry professionals to register with them via their website, www.screensuffolk.com/contact.



Funding delight for arts & culture on the east coast



Arts, culture and heritage in Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft will be further enhanced over the next three years after they secured more than £700,000 in national grant funding for an exciting new partnership project.

Making Waves Together, led jointly by Great Yarmouth Borough Council and Waveney District Council, will see communities and organisations in both areas work together to boost the cultural offer and drive cultural re-imagination as a way of supporting success in the seaside towns. The project is largely funded with a £737,900 grant from the Great Place Scheme, delivered by

Arts Council England, the Heritage Lottery Fund and Historic England. Further funds are from the borough and district councils, Norfolk County Council, Suffolk County Council, Great Yarmouth Town Centre Partnership and Lowestoft Vision, and the Broads National Park. The Great Place Scheme will enable cultural organisations to make a step-change in how they work together, and with other organisations in other sectors, in order that arts, culture and heritage contribute more to meeting local social and economic objectives. In Lowestoft, the project will build on the heritage of performance in the town and work with the Marina Theatre to develop a playwriting project for 900 young people. In and around Lowestoft town centre, Dance East and the Association of Suffolk Museums will work in partnership to create a map of local cultural assets with residents to inspire pop-up

performances.

Cllr Michael Ladd, Waveney District Council's Cabinet member for Tourism and Economic Development, said: "This investment is an enormous boost for Lowestoft and I would like to thank the teams at Waveney and Great Yarmouth and the delivery partners who put in a huge amount of effort to secure this valuable funding pot.

"Culture and heritage play a hugely important role in creating and maintaining a sense of pride and wellbeing in a local area and we believe that this investment will inspire a whole range of people, from all age groups to enjoy and participate in the creative arts. "The funding will also help make Lowestoft an increasingly attractive place to visit which will provide a very real boost for the local economy."

Hedley Swain, Area Director, South East, Arts Council England, said: "Funding from the Great Place Scheme will provide a great boost for the development of the cultural sector in Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft; fostering new partnerships and establishing a collaborative approach that will embed arts, culture and heritage in the social and economic priorities for the future."

Top 20 VIPs welcoming visitors

Visitors to the Waveney area of the Suffolk Coast can now pick up information while they shop or eat, thanks to the launch of seventeen new Visitor Information Points.

The majority of all the Visitor Information Points (VIPs) are now open in key tourist destinations across Waveney, enabling visitors to access information in places they are likely to visit as part of their stay. The VIPs provide visitors with free information on local attractions, events and locations as well as offering advice and friendly local knowledge.

Cllr Michael Ladd, Waveney's cabinet member for Tourism, Economic Development and Rural Affairs said: "The introduction of our VIP network reflects changes in the way visitors access tourist information. Tourism is essential to our local economy and the provision of high-quality visitor information plays a key role in the overall visitor experience. Not only will the VIPs help to

create a positive image of Waveney's numerous destination towns and attractions, the increased footfall in our market towns will help to grow the local economy."

Christine Pinsent, Waveney Business Forum Co-ordinator said: "It is great to get that local feeling and quirky information that you might not have had before to make your visitor experience even more special. All the businesses taking part are very proud to do so and are passionate about their local areas, the whole of Waveney and beyond. There will be great support for all the new VIPs with regular leaflet and information swaps to ensure they are all well prepared."

Three new VIPs have been recently added to the network with the Kirkley Centre, Coffee Heart on London Road North in Lowestoft and St. Peters Hall in South Elmham near Bungay joining 17 other local establishments from across the district.

Beccles

Beccles Books - Exchange Square.
Beccles Station Café - Station Road
Saxons - 35 New Market
Beccles Library - Blyburgate
Beccles Quay - Fen Lane

Bungay

Bungay Library - Wharton Street
Art Trading Company - 55 Earsham Street
St. Peters Hall - South Elmham

Halesworth

The Angel - Thoroughfare
Halesworth Library - Bridge Street

Southwold

Southwold Library - North Green
Southwold Boating Lake - North Parade
Acanthus Property Lettings - 9 Trinity St
SPOTS (Southwold Post Office) - High St

Lowestoft

Lowestoft Railway Station - Denmark Rd
Lowestoft Library - Clapham Rd South
The Kirkley Centre - London Rd South
Coffee Heart - London Road North.

Oulton Broad

Oulton Broad Library - Bridge Road
Harbour Master's Office - Bridge Road

Supporting renewable energy, creating jobs

The first of 56 turbines has been installed at the Galloper Offshore Wind Farm, located 30km off the Suffolk coast and Waveney is delighted to be playing a role in supporting the delivery organisations.

Once complete, Galloper will have the capacity to generate enough power for up to 336,000 homes. Offshore construction for the project is being co-ordinated from the port of Lowestoft with marine and offshore services being provided by Lowestoft-based James Fisher Marine Services. Up to 150 jobs are expected to be created through the Galloper project over the next three years.

James Fisher Marine Services, part of FTSE 250 listed James Fisher & Sons plc, recently relocated to larger premises within Lowestoft after securing the £25 million contract to provide services for Galloper.

Following support and guidance provided by Waveney District Council's Economic Development team, the company was able to expand its operations and relocate to the former AKD building at Horn Hill, from their previous base at the OrbisEnergy Centre.

Paul Wood, Head of Economic Development and Regeneration for Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils said: "The recent inward investment by James Fisher Marine

Services, supported by the Council, is a key part of the Galloper development supply chain. This project is part of wider investment in renewable offshore energy in the southern North Sea, which is expected to exceed £17bn by 2030 and Lowestoft is ideally placed for take advantage of this. The Council plays a leading role in ensuring the district remains an attractive base for renewable energy and other cutting-edge industries, bringing further growth and employment opportunities to the local area. As with James Fisher Marine Services, the Council is keen to support businesses considering relocation to, and investment in, Lowestoft and

the wider area. The Councils are working to create a sustainable and dynamic local economy, supporting local businesses and encouraging growth, regeneration and increased employment opportunities to east Suffolk communities. Foundations for the turbines were completed in March, two months ahead of schedule. In addition to the first turbine installation, the offshore substation has been successfully positioned and installation of the last export cable is underway at Sizewell beach. For more offshore and renewable news, please visit our dedicated microsite for the Port of Lowestoft. www.investinlowestoft.eastsuffolk.gov.uk.



Help us to stamp out fly-tipping

Waveney District Council treats the problem of fly-tipping very seriously and where possible will seek to prosecute anyone caught illegally dumping waste. To help us to respond to incidents of fly-tipping promptly and effectively, please do not hesitate to report an incident to us. If we don't know about it, we can't deal with it.

If you actually see someone fly-tipping, or have information that might enable us to investigate an incident of fly-tipping, please let us know as soon as possible. You do not have to give your details when you contact us about fly-tipping but it may help us if we need to get back to you for further information, and we keep all details provided to us confidential throughout the course of any investigation. You can report fly-tipping by using our online fly-tipping reporting form or go to the web address below.

Cllr Graham Catchpole, Cabinet Member for Operational Services, said: "Working with our partners Waveney Norse, we will investigate all reported incidents of fly-tipping both on public and private land. We will remove waste from public land as soon as practically possible after being reported and work with land owners to encourage waste removal from private land. "Unfortunately, quiet rural areas can become 'hotspots' for fly-tipping as the perpetrators are less likely to be seen. We would ask residents living in rural areas to look out for possible fly-tipping and report any information, such as vehicle registration details, to our Customer Services team.

"Fly-tipping is unpleasant, unnecessary and costly to remove. One of the most effective ways to reduce fly-tipping is for householders to ensure any waste removed from their home is

done so only by a registered waste carrier. We also encourage land owners to take preventative measures to protect their land from fly-tipping, such as the installation of gates or barriers. "All fly-tipped waste is checked for evidence of those responsible and where possible we will seek to prosecute anyone illegally dumping waste."



www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/how-to-report-fly-tipping

Developing local skills for local jobs



Waveney District Council is working closely with local employers and colleges to help boost skills and improve employment prospects.

Working in partnership with Waveney, CEFAS in Lowestoft held its annual Masterclass in April (pictured). Open to Sixth Form science students from the Lowestoft Sixth and Sir John Leman High School, students participated in a series of hands on science activities aimed at giving them an informed and comprehensive understanding of the type of work, progression routes and careers available within CEFAS.

Waveney continues to support the Cefas Masterclasses as they extend their reach of work into all tiers of the educational community and support the development of a high quality science provision that is responsive to their

industry needs and innovation in a truly global marine market.

Meanwhile, a pilot scheme developed by Waveney District Council to help boost skills in the construction sector is proving to be a great success.

Taking into account skills shortages in the construction sector, and the potential for pinch points within domestic house building and regional infrastructure projects, Waveney's Economic Development team took the decision to work with a number of local builders and developers and develop a pilot model of work experience with East Coast College.

Construction students went out on work experience for a period of 2 days per week from March to June 2016. Placements were offered by P J Spillings, Persimmon Homes, Wellington

builders, M S Oakes and Badger Builders on sites at various stages of completion. Over 44 young people participated.

Each builder commended a specific student for their attitude and competency on site.

Certificates were awarded to the named students which will add value to their Portfolios.

The 2 day work experience model proved very worthwhile and as a result 11 students were offered apprenticeships and agreement from the local builders to continue during Spring/Summer of 2017.

Additionally, with support from Waveney, Kingsley Healthcare is liaising closely with the team at East Coast College to make their 'care academy' a reality in time for the new academic year and the college reorganisation.

They are looking to interview up to 20 candidates for 12 positions in their homes and as a prelude to this, some college students will be undertaking work experience with Kingsley over the summer. During a 12 month training period they will seek to enrich the experience of the young people by giving them a broad introduction to the business – working in their homes alongside college study - and support them with a complimentary laptop, bursary, end-of-course bonus and invitation to their Kingsley Care Awards.

Waveney District Council is pleased to play a key role in the development of a skills system that is responsive to industry needs and highlights the diverse offer of employment in Waveney.

Food & drink trail

A new 'food and drink tourism' trail has been launched, celebrating local food and drink businesses and encourage visitors to explore undiscovered parts of east Suffolk.

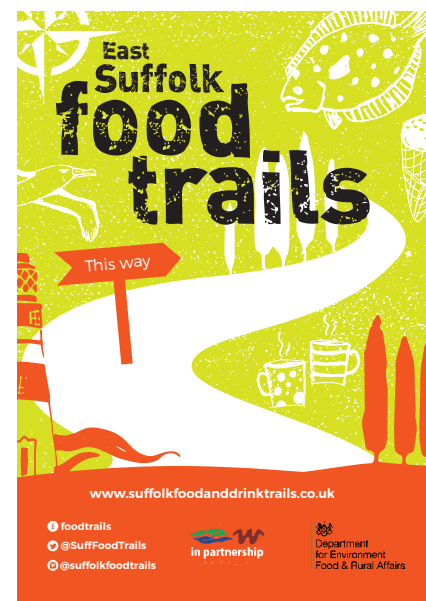
The 'East Suffolk Food and Drink Trail' has been developed by Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils, supported by a Defra 'Championing Food Tourism' grant. A series of interactive food trails will be available online, allowing visitors to explore the area and plan their visit before they arrive. As well as raising the profile of local

food outlets and producers, the online trails will also link with other tourism trails, festivals and markets.

The Championing Food Tourism grant is part of the Defra Great British Food campaign, which aims to showcase the country's rich food heritage, and the people who produce our food.

Out of the 65 national projects which applied for the funding, the Councils were amongst just 10 successful applicants.

Go to www.thesuffolkcoast.co.uk/east-suffolk-food-trails to find out more!



Your benefits - what's new?

There have been a number of changes to the benefits available to local people and Waveney is working hard to help people through these changes.

Universal Credit 'Full Service' was rolled out in the Lowestoft area in May 2016, affecting new claims for Housing Benefit and the five other 'legacy' benefits (Income Support, Jobseekers Allowance, Employment and Support Allowance, Working and Child Tax Credit) made by people living in post code areas NR32, NR33, NR34 4-- or IP19 1--.

From April 6th 2017, Housing Benefit has become available again for some customers. If you are living in the Universal Credit Full Service post code areas as listed above, but the following three points apply to you, then you should claim Housing Benefit and the other legacy benefits, as required, instead of Universal Credit:

1. You haven't claimed Universal Credit in the last 6 months, AND
2. You need help with your rent, AND
3. You have three or more dependent children in your household.

From April, the rules regarding assistance with rent within Universal Credit for single 18 to 21 year olds has changed. These changes will affect new claims for Universal Credit, made after April 1st 2017, and will mean that some single young people will not be able to claim help with their housing costs. However, there are some exemptions to this rule.

For further information and to find out how this might affect you please visit:

www.gov.uk/guidance/housing-costs-for-18-to-21-year-olds.

For more information on Universal Credit, which offers support including career coaching, please visit www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/benefits/universal-credit.

Housing Benefit itself is also changing. Support is now limited to no more than two children for claims made on or after 6 April 2017, and for existing claims where a third or subsequent child is born on or after 6 April 2017. For more information on these changes, please visit www.gov.uk/guidance/claiming-benefits-for-2-or-more-children.

Further changes have been made to the way Housing Benefit is calculated for Private, Housing Association and Council tenants. Previously, an additional bedroom for an overnight carer could only be considered where the claimant or partner requires it. From April 1st 2017, an additional bedroom can be considered

where a child or other adult in the property requires and has overnight care from a non-resident carer, or where a couple are unable to share a bedroom due to disability. There is certain criteria which must be met, however if you think these circumstances may affect your current entitlement to Housing Benefit, please call us on 01502 562111.

Please remember, if you are responsible for the Council Tax on your home, you may be entitled to some support through Local Council Tax Reduction. If you are in receipt of Housing Benefit from Waveney District Council, or Housing Costs through Universal Credit, but you are struggling to meet your rent then you may be entitled to additional, short-term assistance through Discretionary Housing Payment.

To make a new claim for Housing Benefit, Local Council Tax Reduction or Discretionary Housing Payment please visit www.angliarevenues.gov.uk.

UNIVERSAL CREDIT CAN
HELP YOU GET
BACK INTO WORK THROUGH
**CAREER
COACHING**



Finding a solution to your worries at Kirkley Mill

Are you a patient at Kirkley Mill Health Centre in Lowestoft?
Do you suffer from one or more of the following issues?
If so, Solutions could help you.

Solutions is a new service, offered here at Kirkley Mill.

It is a 'social prescribing' scheme, which helps provide patients with non-medical support in the community.

It can help tackle a range of problems, such as:

Mental health & wellbeing, domestic violence, family matters, housing, debt, employment, substance misuse, welfare and benefits.

Medication alone cannot resolve all the issues we face. Tackling non-medical problems can have a positive effect on our health and wellbeing. If you think you could benefit from this service, please ask your GP or health professional at Kirkley Mill to refer you to Solutions, or simply ask at reception.



Waveney beaches among best in country



Three Waveney beaches have been rated amongst the best in the country as this year's Keep Britain Tidy Blue Flag and Seaside Award winners are announced.

For yet another year, the beach at Southwold Pier has been awarded Blue Flag status whilst Lowestoft's South Beach and Kessingland beach have both achieved a Seaside Award. The Blue Flag Award is the international standard for beach quality and is only awarded to coastal destinations that boast the highest

standards of water, facilities, safety, environmental education and management. The Seaside Award recognises and rewards beaches in England that achieve the highest standards of beach management, cleanliness and safety. This year, there are 68 Blue Flags and 117 Seaside Awards, meaning that more than a third of bathing beaches in England will be flying a flag that marks them out as the best in the country. Cllr Michael Ladd, Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Tourism at Waveney

District Council said: "We are absolutely delighted that Southwold has retained its Blue Flag Award for another year and that Lowestoft and Kessingland beaches are in receipt of Seaside Awards. The awards are only given to beaches with excellent safety and cleanliness and show our visitors that we take great pride in our coastline."

One of the many criteria for a Blue Flag Award is an 'excellent' water quality rating however after a lower-than-usual water quality result at Lowestoft, the Council did not apply for a Blue Flag Award for this particular beach this year.

Cllr Ladd said: "Lowestoft's South Beach has previously been awarded a Blue Flag for many consecutive years and it is unfortunate that this year's water quality testing coincided with significant port activity. The resulting sediment disturbance along the nearby coastline impacted on the water quality results for Lowestoft. However, even with this disturbance, the water quality is still extremely high and we hope to apply for Blue Flag status again next year.

"This is an exciting time for our coastal towns; the Lowestoft and Southwold Coastal Community Teams are working to boost the local economy, we are liaising with international designer Wayne Hemingway on the regeneration of Lowestoft's seafront and the summer season is about to arrive, bringing an influx of visitors to the area. These awards will help to attract people to our beaches and highlight that the east Suffolk coast is a great place to live and visit."

Protecting our coast from flooding

1400m of fully-removable temporary flood barriers have been acquired by Waveney thanks to £300,000 of funding from the Regional Flood and Coast Committee. The scheme is designed to help reduce the risk of tidal flooding to people, homes and infrastructure whilst the £25m Lowestoft Flood Risk Management Project progresses.

The barriers were deployed for the first time in January and Cllr David Ritchie, Cabinet Member for Planning and Coastal Management said is delighted that they are available and were ready to deal with potential flooding earlier this year. He said: "Having these tempo-

rary barriers will provide reassurance for local people and we are grateful for the additional funding from the Regional Flood and Coast Committee which has enabled us to proceed with the temporary scheme."

The £25m Lowestoft Flood Risk Management Project (lowestoffrmp.org.uk) is a multi-agency scheme between Waveney District Council, Suffolk County Council, the Environment Agency and Anglian Water. The project aims to develop a way forward to manage the flood risk to Lowestoft from all sources of flooding and to allow for economic growth and regeneration by introducing measures to protect existing residential and

commercial properties. The main focus of the project is the creation of a permanent tidal wall which will be built around the harbour to protect against future tidal surges, with a tidal gate located near to the Bascule Bridge to prevent surge water entering Lake Lothing. The temporary scheme will continue to be available until the permanent tidal defences are completed in 2020.

To check your risk of flooding, please visit www.gov.uk/check-flood-risk. To register with Floodline Warnings Direct, please visit www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings.



Boosting your holiday business by getting the green edge

In east Suffolk, we want tourism businesses in our area to thrive and the natural environment plays a big role. We all know that people go on holiday to escape from it all and to have a good time at the best price whilst getting a high quality experience. However, did you know that 75% of UK travellers consider the environment when choosing a holiday, and some like to 'give back to nature' while they are there?

With this in mind, a new guide has been produced, aimed at tourism businesses, to enhance their attractiveness to visitors while also increasing environmental consideration and business resilience. This pack was created to help businesses achieve as much as they can to make their offering as attractive as possible to discerning visitors whilst giving back to nature. 'Getting the Green Edge' provides a checklist of environmental actions to help tourism businesses in east Suffolk establish what stage they are at, links to case studies and further support. It was created as part of the recent Coastal Communities Funded project 'Developing prospects on the Suffolk Coast: Economy,

People, Environment'. The guide includes:

- a checklist of tried and tested actions to 'benchmark' your business against others.
- Details of support available to you as a business to improve your resilience and environmental impact.
- details of organisations that are supporting nature in our area and who you could support.
- information you could put on your website or in your information for visitors about activities or places to visit.

Cllr Michael Ladd, Cabinet member for Economic Development said: "As part of our overall strategy to for tourism growth in east Suffolk we are always interested in any detail that can give this region the edge. We already know it's a fantastic place to visit, however we should always look to new ways to tell the story of this beautiful part of the country.

The report can be found at www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk and by searching for 'Getting the green edge'.



Helping community buildings thrive!



The Thriving Community Buildings project is going from strength to strength. Could your local centre take advantage?

We have supported 41 community buildings to date through scheme – which is provided by Groundwork Suffolk with funding from the East Suffolk Partnership including Waveney District Council; Suffolk Coast & Heaths AONB Sustainable Development Fund, Suffolk Coastal District Council and Suffolk County Council. It gives community building management committees the chance to select whatever they need from a wide ranging package of advice to establish whether improvement projects are needed and how they can be supported.

One of the key aspects of the project is identifying how energy savings can be made and so far cumulative savings of £21,527 and just under 100 tonnes of carbon dioxide have been identified. Your community building is the place where you (or your parents) celebrated your birthday/wedding. You volunteer, dance, eat together, run community events together, make use of it for work and shelter here when the storms hit. It is your village hall. You want it to survive and thrive whatever comes and so do we! More information can be found on:

www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/community/enabling-communities/thriving-community-buildings.

Or contact Jamie or Robert from Groundwork Suffolk. Please call on Fridays only - 01473 350370 or email

jamie.murphy@groundwork.org.uk to talk through your needs. The full offer covers:

- Energy management and monitoring*
- Resource efficiency*
- Renewable energy*
- Emergency planning and resilience*
- Health and safety*
- Governance, trustees and management*
- Safeguarding*
- Financial management accounting*
- Business planning and fundraising strategies*
- Employment of staff and volunteers*
- Biodiversity and access to wildlife*

Keeping goods in use

None of us like to spend money unless we have to or throw stuff away that could still be of use. With this in mind, a forthcoming event may be just what you are looking for!

A 'give and take' day is taking place at Whitton Residents Hall, Hawthorn Avenue, in Lowestoft on Monday 24th July. Ideally you will bring an item to exchange for one you want - but this is not essential.

So if you have surplus items that are of a good enough quality for someone else to use (even if they may need a bit of a repair), please bring them along (ideally between 9am and 11am as there is very little car parking near the site) and if you are looking for something you think you might need, please pop in between 11am and 3pm.

The Benjamin Foundation will be present on the day to PAT test electrical items and any goods left over at the end of the event will go to them to be sold in their charity shops.

Eat out and eat well in Waveney!

We're working to help east Suffolk residents live healthier lives! To help support healthier lifestyles, Waveney and Suffolk Coastal District Councils, along with Suffolk County Council's Public Health team, developed the Eat Out Eat Well scheme. Launched last year, the scheme aims to encourage businesses to offer healthier choices to customers.

As well as promoting health, Eat Out Eat Well also supports local businesses and helps encourage economic growth in east Suffolk. So far, 17 businesses in east Suffolk have been presented with Eat Out Eat Well awards; in Beccles, Felixstowe, Halesworth, Hasketon, Kesgrave, Lowestoft, Marlesford and Southwold. Owners have reported that the award is 'good for business' and are grateful for the recognition of their efforts to introduce healthier choices. Any food business with a food hygiene rating of 3 or above can apply for accreditation, free of

charge. The Councils' Environmental Protection officers then assess the business, looking at levels of fat sugar and salt in food, children's foods, the availability of fruit and vegetables, cooking methods and the promotion of healthier choices. Dependent on the assessment results, businesses may be given a bronze, silver or gold award.

Remember to look for the Eat Out Eat Well symbol when choosing where to eat!



'The 300' earn top marks hygiene awards

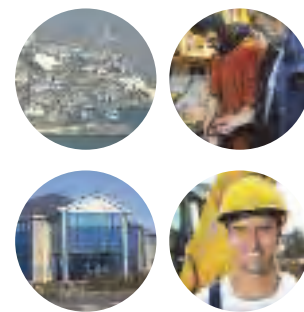
Each month, we recognise local pubs, cafés, restaurants and shops who have achieved the uppermost rating for their food safety.

The Food Hygiene Rating Scheme (FHRS) rates how hygienically food is handled, the condition and cleanliness of the building and its facilities as well as how the business manages and records its food safety activities. The Councils' Environmental Protection officers award a rating of '5/very good' only to those with an excellent approach to hygiene. This year alone, just under 300 businesses across east Suffolk have been awarded with a food hygiene rating of 5, showing their dedication to food safety. Outstanding food hy-

giene is a great way to attract more customers - businesses are encouraged to display their black and green FHRS sticker advertising their current food safety rating in a prominent place, such as a door or window. This allows customers to make an informed choice before ordering food. As part of our work to encourage local growth and increase visitors to east Suffolk, we promote each month's '5 rated' businesses through our website and social media channels, congratulating businesses on reaching the highest possible level of hygiene and sharing the good news with the community. Remember to always look for the FHRS sticker - you can also check food ratings online at <http://ratings.food.gov.uk>.



Support For Your Business



www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk



S assistance from Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils

This leaflet has been produced by the Councils' integrated Economic Development team to give you a brief overview of the services that we can provide to offer assistance and guidance for your business.

The team works with a wide range of local, regional and national partners to support businesses and facilitate key economic opportunities. Our services include:

- Business Support and Inward Investment Guidance
- Commercial Property Intelligence
- Funding Support
- Grant Finding
- Key Sector Support
- Marketing and Promotions
- Project Support and Development
- Skills and Training Development Advice
- Strengthening Town, Village and Rural Economies

East Suffolk is a unique place with distinctive economic strengths; these include the Port of Felixstowe (the country's largest container port), the burgeoning onshore and offshore energy sector and BT's ICT global research and development centre. Furthermore, it has a magnificent natural and built environment making it a significant and growing tourism destination, as well as being attractive to inward investment.

The area offers a diverse range of locations and facilities for new businesses and existing ones wishing to expand or relocate with land and property prices relatively inexpensive when compared to national figures. The varied employment base of the area and the established and diverse supply chain of industries ensure that a range of transferable skills are available.

Therefore, whether you are starting your own business, experiencing challenges or looking to expand, we are here to help. If you would like to discuss any issues, please contact the Economic Development team by:

- ☎ Suffolk Coastal: 01394 444627
- ☎ Waveney: 01502 523219
- ✉ economicservices@eastsuffolk.gov.uk
- 💻 www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk

Suffolk Coastal & Waveney District Councils



in partnership

eastsuffolk.gov.uk