

# intouch

with you and Waveney, November 2016

**Enabling  
Communities p3-6**  
Four pages  
explaining why  
Waveney is putting  
communities first



A historic moment, with the completion of the first new council houses to be built in Bungay since the 1970s. Mayor of Bungay, Cllr John Groom, Waveney's cabinet member for Housing, Cllr Sue Allen, Paul Pitcher, Managing Director of Wellington Construction and Greg Dodds, New Business Manager at Orwell Housing, met with Manor Road tenant Amy Phillips and daughter Darcie, to welcome them to their new home. Also present were Waveney's Housing manager Dave Howson and Bungay ward councillor Simon Woods.



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# contact us

You can do more online at [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk)

**Customer Services:**  
01502 562111  
[customerservices@waveney.gov.uk](mailto:customerservices@waveney.gov.uk)

**Accessibility:**  
There are hearing loops at all of our offices.

**In person:**  
**Marina Customer Service Centre**  
The Marina , Lowestoft  
NR32 1HH  
**Beccles Library**  
Blyburgate, Beccles  
NR34 9TB

*We provide public access computers at all of our offices*

**Opening times:**  
**Marina Customer Service Centre**  
Mon-Wed: 8.45am to 5.00pm  
Thu: 9.30am to 5.30pm  
Fri: 8.45am to 4.30pm

Our busiest day is Monday and our busiest times are between 12.00pm and 2.00pm each day. Additionally, we are very busy at the beginning and end of each month. We are closed on bank holidays and weekends.

[facebook.com/waveneydc](https://www.facebook.com/waveneydc)  
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Waveney District Council no longer takes cash payments and customers must now use alternative methods:

- Direct Debit
  - Online [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/payments](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/payments)
  - Automated Payment line 0845 835 0137
- You can also pay your Council Tax and Housing Rent, in cash, at the Post Office or at a Payzone outlet, using a payment card.

## New website up & running

As Waveney's partnership with Suffolk Coastal goes from strength to strength, the two councils have launched a brand new website providing news, information and services for communities across east Suffolk.

The new site, [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk), replaced the Councils' previous platforms, creating one, easy to access website. There have been a number of improvements, ensuring that the new site is clearer and more accessible through smartphone devices and tablets.

Have you visited the site? If so, we'd love to hear your feedback. You can also send us any comments about things you would like to see in the future.

Please email: [web@eastsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:web@eastsuffolk.gov.uk).

## New Chairman

Cllr Mark Bee has been appointed Chairman of Waveney District Council for the year 2016-17.



Cllr Bee led the Council in Waveney from

2004 until 2011 before leading Suffolk County Council until 2015. He has served as a district councillor since 1998, representing the Wainford and Worlingham wards. He replaces Cllr Bruce Provan in the role as Chairman.

Cllr Bee said: "It has been a very great honour to serve the people of Waveney since 1998 and I am absolutely delighted to be appointed to this prestigious role. I will continue to represent this district and the people of Waveney with great pride and with a clear determination to promote the importance of this council's role in the local community."

# PAPER BILLS ARE A THING OF THE PAST.



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# Enabling communities... supporting YOU

One of the key priorities of our shared Business Plan with partners Suffolk Coastal is Enabling Communities. Over the next five pages, we'll show you why! We want to improve services, build resilient communities and make life better for everyone.

We firmly believe that local government can, and should, work more closely with communities and the 'champions' within each community, who put their time and energy into making things better in their group or community. We want to enable our communities to be more resilient. This means making it possible or easy for

communities to do the things that they most want to do – rather than doing things 'to' or 'for' them. We are putting local communities firmly at the heart of all we do and across the next four pages, we bring you examples of the work we are doing and, just as importantly, how communities can get involved.



## Funds to boost local projects

**Community projects are being offered an important financial boost by Waveney District Council, following the announcement of a brand new funding pot for local groups and organisations.**

The launch of the Waveney Community Enabling Fund means that any community group, registered charity or voluntary organisation in the district could receive up to £2,500 to help fund new community projects or enhance existing community activity and schemes.

This new funding pot was initially included in the east Suffolk Business Plan – a document which presents the key priorities for Waveney in partnership with Suffolk Coastal District Council. Overall there is an allocation of £27,500 for 2016-17 and the deadline for applications is 12 noon on Wednesday, 30th November 2016.

To apply, or find out more about the funding and eligibility, those interested should visit

[www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/community/community-grants-and-funding/](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/community/community-grants-and-funding/) or contact the Funding Team on 01502 523334 or [grants@eastsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:grants@eastsuffolk.gov.uk).

Cllr Frank Mortimer, Waveney's Cabinet Member for Customers and Communities said: "We are delighted to announce this scheme to help benefit people and communities in Waveney. One of the key priorities in our Business Plan is enabling communities to develop and deliver worthwhile

schemes and projects for local people. We are greatly looking forward to hearing from local people and doing what we can to support their schemes and ideas."

Applications need to focus on promoting health & well-being, with increased access to leisure, arts and cultural facilities, empowering and local communities, developing communities. They must be ready to start delivery from 1st February 2017 and finish by 31st August 2017.

Applications are welcome from any local organisation looking to run a project offering support to key groups within the area, such as older and young people, black and minority ethnic groups, volunteering, vulnerable people and socially-excluded communities. Joint applications from groups working together on specific projects are also acceptable. Final decisions will be made in January 2017 and applicants will be informed whether they have been successful in obtaining funding, in writing.



To apply, or find out more about funding schemes, go to [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/community/community-grants-and-funding/](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/community/community-grants-and-funding/) or contact the Council's Funding Team: **01502 523334** or [grants@eastsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:grants@eastsuffolk.gov.uk).

### A brand new grant fund, targeting community health and wellbeing initiatives has been set up by Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils.

The "Community Call to Action" programme is the first ever joint funding pot managed by the two councils in partnership and provides an opportunity for local community groups and voluntary sector organisations to apply for a share of £125,000, with £62,500 available within each District Council area.

The funding has been made available by the

Public Health and Protection team at Suffolk County Council and focuses on five key themes. Specifically, the programme aims to support projects in mental health, dementia, carers support, social isolation and loneliness, and encouraging people to be fit and active. A total of £12,500 has been set aside for each theme and community groups are encouraged to put forward projects that either benefit one community or a cluster of communities.

Cllr Mary Rudd, Waveney's Cabinet Member for Community Health & Safety said: "As part of

our focus on enabling communities, this is a crucial pot of funding to support projects, including those for vulnerable people in our society. We are delighted that this money has been made available and we are determined that it will be used as effectively as possible." Anyone interested in learning more should contact the Funding & Community Development Officer on 01394 444 720 or via email to [grants@eastsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:grants@eastsuffolk.gov.uk).

# Taking the enabling message on the road!



**Waveney and Suffolk Coastal are taking their 'Enabling Communities' message out to local people, staging roadshows to help communities understand how they can take control of important decisions which affect them.**

Enabling Communities Roadshows, were delivered in Lowestoft and Stratford St Andrew in July and were well attended by representatives from a variety of organisa-

tions and members of the public. Members of local groups who have already developed community-led initiatives were present at the roadshows to showcase and explain to other attendees how they developed their own schemes and improved their resilience, environment and the overall quality of life of their communities. Attendees were also asked to consider their community strengths and assets and determine what was already working well in their local areas.

Cllr Frank Mortimer, Waveney's cabinet member for Communities said: "These roadshows were both well attended and I hope that those who took part now feel encouraged and empowered to work together to make real change in their communities. For those unable to come along to the roadshows, various presentations are now available to view online and inspire people to take action in their own communities."

Cllr TJ Haworth-Culf, Suffolk Coastal's cabinet member for Customers, Communities and Leisure and Cllr Steve Gallant, cabinet member for Community Health, said: "A key priority within the Business Plan for both councils in East Suffolk is to enable local people are able to create a diverse mix of resilient and supportive communities. These events have shown people how to become involved in order to ensure their needs are met and where they can make a difference to

their community."

The Waveney roadshow, held at Lowestoft Community Church in Hadenham Road, was attended by representatives from Waveney and Suffolk Coastal District Councils, Suffolk Police Community Safety Speedwatch, Emergency Planning, Suffolk County Council, Halesworth Men's Shed, the Huntingfield Hub, Suffolk Age UK, Lowestoft Rising and Orwell Housing. Also in attendance were representatives from the Town Councils of Bungay and Carlton Colville, along with the Parish Councils of Gisleham, Ilkeshall St Andrew, Corton and Kessingland. The Suffolk Coastal event was held at the Riverside Centre in Stratford St Andrew and was attended by representatives from Waveney and Suffolk Coastal District Councils, Suffolk County Council Trading Standards, Suffolk County Council, Suffolk Police, Suffolk Coastal Norse, Age UK Suffolk, Suffolk Police Community Safety Speedwatch, Leiston Forward, Felixstowe Dementia Action Alliance, Community Action Suffolk, Suffolk Coasts and Heaths AONB and Quiet Lanes Suffolk. The Town Councils of Kesgrave, Saxmundham and Framlingham were represented along with Boyton, Levington, Benhall and Sternfield, Melton and Bredfield Parish Councils.

Presentations from both events are available at [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/enabling-communities/](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/enabling-communities/)

## Planning your neighbourhood's future



**Following successful events last year, the Active Communities Team at Waveney and Suffolk Coastal District Councils recently staged two further Neighbourhood Planning Network events.**

Neighbourhood Planning is a Government initiative enabling communities to influence planning proposals at a local level. Neighbourhood Plans can help determine the location of new development, provide guidance for what new buildings should look like and grant planning permission for particular types of development. Currently across the Waveney and Suffolk

Coastal areas there are 19 areas which have completed or are in the process of developing a plan. Those attending had the opportunity to share experiences and learn from those who are already in process of developing a plan or considering undertaking one. Liam Martin, Chair of Kessingland Parish Council spoke of the experiences of the Kessingland Neighbourhood Plan group in getting to the point of their plan being near to completion. All plans once produced have to be independently examined before going to a referendum. One of the areas of focus at the event was the examination process and what is

expected from those who are preparing a plan. Jo McCallum, Active Communities Officer explained, "Communities are increasingly becoming aware that they have an opportunity to shape how the area they live and work in will look in the future. We were encouraged by the interest in these events. Looking at feedback it is clear that sharing experiences is an excellent way to navigate through the process".

For further information or support please contact [activecommunities.wdc@eastsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:activecommunities.wdc@eastsuffolk.gov.uk) or call 01502 523186.

# Free summer activities are a seaside hit

**Waveney District Council's popular programme of free children's activities returned to Lowestoft for a fourth consecutive summer and over 200 children took part!**

The summer activities, designed for children aged between nine and sixteen, were organised by Waveney District Council's Active Communities Team throughout the school summer holidays.

Every Tuesday and Thursday on Lowestoft's award-winning South Beach activities included boxing, tag rugby, dodgeball, cricket, rounders, futsal and giant volleyball. Inspired by the 2016 Rio Olympics, a special 'grand finale' took place on 30 August featuring a festival of Brazilian dance and music, including maracatu dancing and demonstrations from Cordão de Ouro! 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. This summer's activities were our most successful to date and we hope to repeat the success next year.



Two pilot workshops to help people to get online safely and get the most out of being online are being held at Lowestoft Library on Wednesday 30th November and Felixstowe Library on Thursday 1st December.

The morning session on each day will tackle getting online safely and securely,

online shopping and banking and using social media. The afternoon sessions will focus on how you can save money by getting online (including by switching your energy supplier). To 'get online' by booking a place at either workshop, please contact Chris Ipkendanz on 01394 444720 or email [chris.ipkendanz@eastsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:chris.ipkendanz@eastsuffolk.gov.uk).



## Making the most of school holidays

**Funding has been made available to improve the opportunities available for young people during the school holidays.**

East Suffolk Youth Priority Action Group (ESYPAG) has now successfully launched two rounds of funding for their youth holiday activities programme with projects being supported across Suffolk Coastal and Waveney including Leiston, Saxmundham, Lowestoft and Oulton Broad.

Activity providers across east Suffolk are being asked to submit application forms for up to £800 which involve and provide not just sport, but also activities promoting the arts, science as well as activities to improve skills and activities aimed at young disabled people.

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 (ESP) providing £50,000 in funding to support the initiative over the next two years. 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 the third round of funding due to be launched early in the new year, The project is being led by young people, with support from the District and County Councils. Final decisions on successful applications will be made by a panel of young people from across east Suffolk who will also benefit from the project management skills they learn from the project.

Ray Wang, ESYPAG and ESP Board Member, said:

"We've had a great response from activity

providers across Suffolk Coastal and Waveney so far, and we're now hoping to encourage more to come forward.

This important project is helping to make a difference to the lives of young people throughout east Suffolk, to provide them with activities that will not only help them develop key skills, but also help improve their overall mental health and well-being."

Details of future rounds of funding, including application deadline dates, funding application forms and guidance notes, can be found at [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk)

You can also request an application form by emailing [stuart.halsey@eastsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:stuart.halsey@eastsuffolk.gov.uk), or for further information about the project, call: 01502 523354.

# Love east Suffolk... hate litter!

**The 'Love East Suffolk' litter pick scheme designed to encourage more community groups to get involved in taking care for their environment by collecting litter has been hailed a success by Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils.**

When the incentive based scheme was launched in spring this year, 1,058 volunteers from 62 groups in Suffolk Coastal and 264 volunteers from 16 groups from Waveney took part between 1 March and 31 May, helping to clean up more than 5.46 tonnes of waste! Each community group that took part were rewarded with £20 and were then entered into a draw with the chance of winning £200 for the benefit of their community. Nine winners were picked from each neighbourhood area for Suffolk Coastal and Waveney, with the winners for the latter as follows:

- Southwold Town Council
  - Beccles Bombs
  - Promoting Pakefield Group
  - Blundeston & Flixton WI
- The rewards have been funded through

the Councils' partner organisation Norse. Cllr Stephen Ardley, Cabinet Member for Operational Partnerships at Waveney District Council, said: "We'd like to say a big thank you to all different groups who've taken part. We're really pleased that so many people from schools, charities and voluntary groups have taken the time to look after their environment.

"The scheme proves that our community groups are doing a fantastic job at helping to keep our environment litter free. I hope this will encourage others to do their bit."

"The success of this scheme demonstrates that our communities have a great sense of pride in where they live.

Although the incentive part has now ended, we continue to provide support to anyone who wants to do a litter pick in east Suffolk."

If you would like to take part in a litter pick, please complete a registration form which you can find at [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/litter](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/litter). Waveney Norse can provide you with free disposable gloves and sacks as well as arrange to collect and dispose of the rubbish collected.



**Waveney District Council is determined to improve outcomes for local communities and is studying a report published by the University of Suffolk on behalf of the Suffolk Community Foundation.**

It shows that Suffolk continues to be less deprived than many other parts of the country, with clean air, safe roads and good care taken of our young children. However, the report also shows that Suffolk is a place where advantage and disadvantage sit side by side.

The population is ageing, some people live a long way from essential services, others are struggling to live on the amount of money coming into their household and there are a number of 'hidden needs' – deprived households within better off areas.

The report uses a series of interactive maps to provide facts and figures down to community level. Partners in East Suffolk are working together through the East Suffolk Partnership to tackle the issues identified in the report – but if you want to know more about what it is really like where you live, visit:

<http://tinyurl.com/h6q84r3>

## Supporting community buildings



**Community groups in Waveney could benefit from free support to help secure the long-term sustainability of their facilities.**

The Thriving Community Buildings project, delivered by Groundwork Suffolk with funding from the East Suffolk Partnership and Suffolk Coast & Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural

Beauty, has supported over 30 community buildings since it began in 2014. The service offers tailored advice on energy and resource efficiency, community energy, emergency planning and resilience, health and safety, governance, safeguarding, financial management, business planning, employment as well as biodiversity and access to wildlife. Additional follow up support to help communities that have received a report and are keen to move recommendations on energy efficiency and renewables to action by obtaining/reviewing quotes, presenting to your management committee or relevant funders, completing application forms and identifying other ways to help you overcome any blockages is available, via The Thriving Community Buildings project, from the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership. So far, the project has saved groups £11,784 in energy costs and 52.7tCO<sub>2</sub>e in associated greenhouse gas emissions by recommending actions that are now complete, in progress or in planning. Between 2016 and 2018 Groundwork will undertake 20 more on-site thrivability audits to identify opportunities for com-

munities to make improvements in Suffolk Coastal and Waveney Districts. 15 additional communities will receive telephone and email ad-hoc thrivability support plans to progress existing ideas. Communities have already received reports and bookings are filling up into next year. Margaret Wilson from Bealings Village Hall (pictured), a beneficiary of the project, said "I found the service very helpful, the report was impressive and has been a useful reference for the committee in making decisions."

If you think that your community facility could benefit from this support and you would like to register your interest, please contact Jamie Murphy, Groundwork Suffolk on 01473 350370 or email [jamie.murphy@groundwork.org.uk](mailto:jamie.murphy@groundwork.org.uk).

# The survey says 'yes' to a merged council

A recent independent survey of 1,000 residents in the Suffolk Coastal and Waveney districts shows that a clear majority of people are in favour of a new council for east Suffolk. **But what do you think..?**

**A decision to combine the two existing councils and create a brand new 'super district', delivering important services to communities across east Suffolk, will be taken in January; however both councils are determined to hear the views of local people on this potentially historic development.**

With this in mind, an independent telephone survey by leading research consultancy ComRes was conducted in October. 1,000 local people, representing the different backgrounds of people who live in east Suffolk, were asked a number of questions about the proposals. Of these, four out of five respondents (78%) expressed a favourable or neutral view about the proposals and of those who "don't know" (20%), the majority then expressed a favourable view when provided with more information about the plans. Now, the councils are asking everyone in the two districts to tell them what they think, as part of an engagement campaign running until December 12th. It is the view of both Council Leaders that a new, larger organisation would be better placed to address a range of challenges and better serve our local communities by ensuring that crucial services are protected and sustained. Both are determined to do so while maintaining a low council tax base and a new council would be better able to deliver this.

The districts share a number of similarities including geography, infrastructure, the railway, A12, market towns and coastline. They share an economy which focuses on areas such as tourism, creative industries, agriculture and food & drink as well as

boasting the "Energy Coast" which combines the expanding offshore wind sector and nuclear power.

The districts also have a number of challenges in common including a skills & wages gap, a transport & communications infrastructure which needs improving and the ongoing risks from coastal erosion & flooding. A new, larger council would be better placed to meet these challenges while withstanding the significant reductions in Central Government funding for councils across the country.

Cllr Ray Herring, Leader of Suffolk Coastal District Council said: "This is a historic decision for both Councils. We already have a proud record of making savings and improving services through partnership working. We believe we can be stronger together for our residents. "However, this is a big step for us, so it is essential that we engage with our communities and make sure local people have their say. We believe it is important that people fully understand all the implications of the proposed merger and have the opportunity to contribute their views."

Cllr Colin Law, Leader of Waveney District Council said: "We have led the way in developing a hugely successful partnership and this proposal is the natural next step. We believe we are responding appropriately to the challenges we face, ensuring that we are in the best possible position to support our communities and provide them with the services they require. However it is vitally important that we listen to our local communities and we really want to hear the views and opinions of as many people as possible before any final decision is made."

**How much money would be saved?**  
Merging to form a new single council would deliver an estimated saving of £1.3m per year, and because the councils already work so closely together, the costs of setting up a new, single local authority would be very low.

## The new council would better enable us to:

- ✓ Sustain the delivery of important services to local people
- ✓ Maintain low council tax
- ✓ Withstand significant reductions in Government funding for councils
- ✓ Play a greater role in improving education and skills
- ✓ Invest in growth and infrastructure projects
- ✓ Tackle increasing housing demand and costs
- ✓ Tackle the effects of further welfare reform
- ✓ Further encourage sustainable growth across east Suffolk

Learn more about the proposals...

[www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/new-single-council](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/new-single-council)

Then have your say!

[merger@eastsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:merger@eastsuffolk.gov.uk)

Suffolk Coastal & Waveney District Councils



in partnership

[eastsuffolk.gov.uk](http://eastsuffolk.gov.uk)

# Getting your recycling right!



A new video has been made available online to highlight what can and can't go in your recycling bin, and a leaflet is being distributed to all homes in Suffolk to serve as a reminder.

In Suffolk more than half of our household waste is recycled, but problems arise when unsuitable items are placed in kerbside recycling bins. These items may be potentially dangerous, can have a negative impact on the environment, and ultimately cost the Council Taxpayer extra money to sort out.

All recyclable waste collected from the blue bins is taken to the Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) in Great Blakenham, for sorting and baling before being sent on for recycling. This facility can only accept and process certain materials. If incorrect items are delivered they have to be removed, sometimes by hand. To help ensure the correct items are put into their blue bins and ensure as much as possible actually gets recycled, residents are being asked to remember these points, opposite:

A campaign has been launched by the Suffolk Waste Partnership to highlight the importance of recycling correctly.

**The blue bin no longer accepts textiles or clothing. People should donate their unwanted clothing to charity shops, or use a textile bank.**

**Food waste must never be placed in the blue bin – residents are asked to consider home composting if possible.**

**Anything smaller than 4cm, such as loose bottle tops or shredded paper, won't get recycled as they will be lost during the sorting process.**

**Items like glass, electrical items, and batteries can't go in your blue bin but can be recycled elsewhere. Information online [www.suffolkrecycle.org.uk](http://www.suffolkrecycle.org.uk).**

**Bottle tops can instead be recycled by simply washing and squashing plastic bottles and placing the tops back on.**

**Plain shredded paper can be placed in the green or black bin.**

**Aluminium foil must be rolled into a tennis ball size before going in the recycling bin.**

**Some people are even putting used nappies in their blue bins. Nappies must always go in the black bin.**

# £1.4 million

Suffolk is one of the best counties in England for recycling and you are currently helping to recycle 53% of our household waste. The materials you recycle can be turned back into new products – for example yesterday's old tin can could become tomorrow's new toaster! A fantastic effort and one that everyone should be proud of. Sadly, about 18,000 tonnes of stuff that could go in Suffolk's recycling bin gets thrown into our rubbish bins every year. Rubbish is more expensive to deal with than recyclables and this is costing the Suffolk taxpayer a whopping £1.4 million extra every year.

Watch the video at [suffolkrecycle.info](http://suffolkrecycle.info) to learn more!

**Norse here to help**



As the weather gets wetter, businesses that operate heavy plant and machinery may find themselves bringing significant amounts of mud onto the roads and tracks that they use. Other businesses and industrial estates find roads and car parks covered in leaves. Waveney District Council's partner, Waveney Norse, carries out road sweeping on behalf of WDC and Norse's mechanical road sweeper and driver are also available to be hired by the hour or day to carry out mechanical sweeping on commercial premises. If you would like more information please call Waveney Norse on 01502 527100.



# Garden waste collection service

Waveney District Council offers an optional, paid-for, garden waste collection service to household properties and customers who signed up for 2016-17 will soon need to renew the service for another 12 months. Collections are on a fortnightly basis, running throughout the year and the council will soon get in

touch with EVERY customer who has previously signed up, with full details about what they need to do. If you have not yet signed up for the service, it couldn't be simpler! Collections cost only £42 for the whole year and with 26 collections across 12 months, it works out at only £1.60 for each collection.



Renewal information at [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/gardenwaste](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/gardenwaste)

## Carry on Composting!

Autumn is a great time for home composting with leaf fall and the summer's spent prunings and trimmings waiting to be transformed into a rich nutrient food for your garden.

It's easy to make your own compost, and to help, Suffolk Councils have teamed up to offer a range of affordable compost bins and accessories.

Through the offer, Suffolk residents can buy a basic compost bin for as little as £8.99 plus £5.99 delivery charge. As well as basic compost bins, a range of

alternative systems which can deal with cooked food waste are also available, including food waste digesters, wormeries, and hot compost bins. For details of products and offers, and to order, visit

[www.suffolk.getcomposting.com/](http://www.suffolk.getcomposting.com/) or call 0844 571 4444. Prices apply until 31st March 2017. For more details about home composting and the Suffolk Master Composter Volunteer scheme, visit [www.greensuffolk.org/recycling/reduce-and-reuse/home-composting/](http://www.greensuffolk.org/recycling/reduce-and-reuse/home-composting/).



## Free parking



### Visitors can now enjoy free parking in Lowestoft on Sundays and Wednesdays!

Lowestoft Vision, which is part of the Suffolk Chamber of Commerce in Lowestoft and Waveney, is funding all-day free parking in the town's two multi-storey car parks on Sundays and after 3pm on Wednesdays. Following discussions with Waveney District Council about providing a period of free parking in council car parks to increase footfall in the town during quieter periods, Lowestoft Vision have agreed to pay for the period of parking from October until the end of April before reviewing the success of the campaign. Darren Newman, Lowestoft Vision BID

Manager said "We hope this campaign will bring people back into Lowestoft and to enjoy the wonderful shops and other facilities on offer. We are grateful to Waveney District Council and Waveney Norse who have been working with us and provided us with this opportunity." Stephen Ardley, Waveney's Cabinet Member for Operations and Facilities said: "This is a fantastic offering from Lowestoft Vision and we are delighted to be working in partnership with them." Customers using the car parks will not require a car parking ticket as all pay and display machines will be covered during the period of free parking.

## Historic decision for Lowestoft

**The creation of a new Town Council for Lowestoft is being decided, following the publication of a final proposal earlier this Autumn.**

The final proposal recommends the creation of a single town council for Lowestoft, plus a new parish council for Oulton Broad and local people have been expressing their views ahead of a final decision this month. The final proposal has been developed by Waveney District Council and is based on responses received from residents living in Lowestoft and the immediate surrounding area, as well as the views of councillors and officers.

Cllr Colin Law, Leader of Waveney District Council said: "As we have said previously, our preference is for the whole of the district to be

represented by town and parish councils and these new councils would fill an important democratic gap. Feedback from residents during the first stage of consultation showed that 69% of those that responded were in support of the creation of a new council or councils, and this final proposal reflects the desire of residents to have their own local representation. The views of residents have been crucial to the development of our recommendations at each stage of the review and they now have a final opportunity to have their say."

The final proposal can be viewed online at [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/lowestoftcgr](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/lowestoftcgr). If the decision to create the new councils is approved, elections to them would take place next year, on May 4, 2017.



## Protecting the past and looking to the future

**Plans to bring jobs and breathe new life in to a location in Lowestoft have been given the go ahead with planning approval for a new fast food restaurant on Jubilee Way.**

The decision, which will see the construction of a Burger King drive through restaurant on a site previously occupied by Waveney District Council offices, will create 24 jobs and kick start the regeneration of an area which will bring customers and, in time, further businesses to the north end of town.

Last month, Waveney District Council's Planning Committee gave consent for the demolition of the former officer buildings to make way for a new development to include the restaurant. However, councillors asked for the restaurant plans themselves to be revised and resubmitted. The new plans, which were approved unanimously last night, incorporate the retention of a historic wall on the site; part of what is known as the Coopers Building, in recognition of its heritage value and interest.

Detailed discussions with Burger King are continuing and it is hoped that building work will commence in late autumn with the restaurant opening for trade in early Spring 2017. The outlet will be the brand's first in Lowestoft and create around 24 full time jobs.

Meanwhile, adjacent to this site, the iconic, original town hall will be retained, for civic or community use and is not part of this approved development.

Cllr Colin Law, Leader of Waveney District Council said: "We made a clear undertaking when the Council vacated this part of town that the site would not be abandoned or neglected. We also expressed our determination to ensure that any future develop would benefit the town and the



local economy.

"I am also delighted that this development balances the importance of regeneration with the careful consideration we always seek to give to heritage assets. The retention of part of the Coopers Building recognises this and ensures we get the balance just right."

The Coopers building was formally home to one of Lowestoft's oldest businesses with links to the towns trading and maritime history and as a bakery produced the famous 'ships biscuit'. Waveney District Council vacated the town hall site in 2015 as part of a £13 million accommodation programme which has seen the creation of a new administrative building on Riverside Road and the refurbishment, in partnership with Suffolk County Council, of the Marina Customer Services Centre.

The programme, which sees council teams occupying new and more efficient buildings will save local taxpayers over £3 million across the next 10 years in reduced maintenance and energy bills.

**Waveney District Council has established a new cross-party panel to determine the future of civic memorabilia once housed at the old Town Hall in Lowestoft.**

Following the Council's move to Riverside last year, civic memorabilia from the Council's previous offices at the Town Hall was placed in local and secure environmentally-controlled storage. The items include various pictures, ceramics and models which were not in use for civic functions or on loan to local museums.

At a Council meeting on 21 September, it was agreed that a cross-party panel be established to determine the future of the items in order to minimise storage costs and prevent deterioration.

Cllr Mike Barnard, Waveney's Cabinet Member for Resources and Welfare Reforms said: "Much of the memorabilia currently in storage is incompatible with the new working environment at Riverside however many of the items are important pieces of civic history and we are aware that some are of great interest to local residents. "Whilst some articles are the property of the Council, others are on loan or in our care. With these items, we will speak to those people who donated them and determine an appropriate way forward which will be mindful of the items' history. It is possible that some items could be of relevance to any town or parish council which may emerge from the current Community Governance Review. It is essential we give careful consideration to the future of these items."

# All systems go for new crossing

**In March 2016, a provisional funding agreement of approximately £73m was received from the Department for Transport for the Lake Lothing Third Crossing project.**

This funding would cover the majority of the construction works required to deliver the crossings with additional contributions required to fund the project.

Work is underway on further investigations which are needed to fix the exact location and alignment. This will ensure there are minimise impacts and the best bridge design is agreed.

There will be a round of formal consultation in 2017 prior to the submission of a planning application to the Secretary of State for Transport for the crossing. Then, subject to the planning application approval, construc-

tion could start in 2019/20 and would take two to three years to build. It will run from the A12 via Waveney Drive on the south side, to Denmark Road and Peto Way on the north side of Lake Lothing. A comprehensive and robust option selection process was adopted to generate and assess options for the scheme, leading to the clear identification of a preferred option. In the preparation of the outline business case three locations were considered (east, west and central), as well as tunnels and a lock/barrage. The preferred scheme is the Central Bridge option because it is the least expensive of the short-listed options, produces the highest benefits, is most likely to deliver the objectives and has a high level of public and business support.

## Bridge benefits

New opportunities for regeneration and development in Lowestoft

Provide the capacity needed to accommodate planned growth

Reduce community severance between north and south Lowestoft

Reduce congestion and delay on the existing bridges over Lake Lothing

Reduce congestion in the town centre and improve accessibility

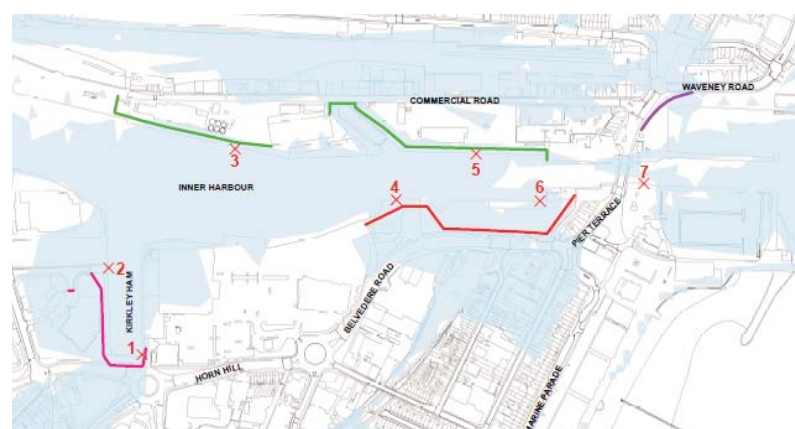
Encourage more people to walk and cycle, and reduce conflict between cycles, pedestrians and other traffic

Improve bus journey times and reliability

To reduce accidents



## Flood barriers in place for winter



**Temporary flood barriers which will reduce the risk of flooding in Lowestoft are ready for deployment ahead of the winter season.**

1400m of fully-removable barriers have been officially handed over by the Environment Agency to Waveney District Council thanks to £300,000 of additional funding secured by the Council from the Regional Flood and Coast Committee. The temporary 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. Cllr Colin Law, Leader of Waveney District Council said: "Without any form of temporary defence, the people and the town of Lowestoft will continue to be exposed to the North Sea

until the permanent scheme is completed in 2020. Having these temporary 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."

In the event of a tidal surge, temporary barriers will be constructed in a position to best protect the most vulnerable areas from flooding. Barriers will be deployed in four areas around the harbour; alongside Kirkley Ham, Waveney Road, Belvedere Road and Commercial Road. The £25m Lowestoft Flood Risk Management Project ([www.lowestoffrmp.org.uk](http://www.lowestoffrmp.org.uk)) is a multi-agency scheme between Waveney District

Council, Suffolk County Council, the Environment Agency, Anglian Water and other organisations. 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.

# Waveney's beaches among the best again

**Three Waveney beaches have been ranked amongst the best in the country by the Keep Britain Tidy Blue Flag and Seaside Awards.** Yet again, Lowestoft's South Beach and the beach at Southwold Pier have retained their Blue Flag status for another year and Kessingland once again wins a Seaside Award for its stretch of beach.

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 and, in the case of bathing beaches, meet the required mandatory standards for water quality.

This summer, 68 beaches across England will be flying a Blue Flag Award after meeting the highest standards for cleanliness, facilities and water quality. In addition, 111 beaches have been presented with the Seaside Award by Keep Britain Tidy. The Seaside Award recognises beaches that are well-managed and maintained. Cllr Colin Law, Waveney District Council leader said: "We are absolutely delighted that Southwold and Lowestoft have once again retained their Blue Flag Awards for another year.

It tells visitors and local people alike that our beaches are safe, attractive and a great place to spend time. It boosts local businesses who depend on the trade from visitors and really helps put the district of Waveney on the tourist map"

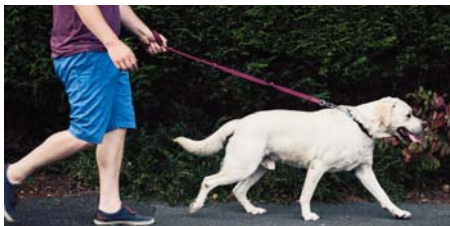
"The standards necessary to gain a Blue Flag are very high and I would like to thank Waveney Norse, Anglian Water and Sentinel Leisure Trust for their hard work in maintaining our beaches to such an exceptional standard."

Keep Britain Tidy's Coastal Award Manager Paul Todd said: "It is great that we have been able to award more beaches this year with Blue Flag and Seaside Awards. As an environmental charity, Keep Britain Tidy is committed to improving the quality of the places where people live, work and



holiday and these winners have proved their commitment to providing the best possible beaches for locals and visitors alike. Visitors can be sure, if they visit a Blue Flag or Seaside Award-winning beach, they are visiting one of the best beaches in the world."

## Saying no to foul play



**Responsible dog owners understand the importance of clearing up after their pets, and so they take their dog for a walk armed with a poop scoop or bag. They will dispose of the waste when they return home or use one of the Council's dog waste bins or litter bins found across the district.**

Sadly, however, here is an inconsiderate minority who fail to clean up after their dogs. The lack of a nearby bin to dispose of dog waste is not a reasonable excuse for failing to clean up dog mess. If there is no convenient bin, you must TAKE IT HOME for proper disposal.

Dog waste in public areas is dealt with through the normal process of street cleansing and is usually

removed during scheduled street cleaning. However, the Council understands that residents are concerned about dog fouling, which is why reported incidents of dog mess will be removed from roads, parks, play areas or the beach within 24 hours of receipt.

### Reporting offenders

If you see a dog owner who allows his or her dog to foul our streets then you can report it to us.

### Dog fouling and the law

Where there is a persistent problem, officers will try to identify irresponsible dog owners. The Dog Control Order makes it illegal to fail to clear up after your dog if it fouls any land that is open to the air and to which the public have access. Inconsiderate dog owners could face a fixed penalty fine of £80 or a fine of up to £1000 if there is a conviction in the Courts. Contact us to request the removal of dog fouling or report an incident.

Email: [customer.services.wdc@eastsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:customer.services.wdc@eastsuffolk.gov.uk)  
Telephone: 01502 562111

## Is your car winter ready?

**As the nights get longer and darker and there is a danger of ice on the roads, you may be thinking about getting your vehicle serviced to make sure you are safe driving this winter.**

If so, you may like to know that Waveney District Council's partner, Waveney Norse, operate a vehicle workshop at Rotterdam Road in Lowestoft which can provide MOTs, servicing and repairs to vehicles owned by the general public. They have received 5 star ratings and comments from [motoring.co.uk](http://motoring.co.uk) and there is also a canteen on site that you can use while you wait for your vehicle to be worked on, or you can take the opportunity to walk to the nearby shops. If you would like to book your vehicle into their workshop, or would like more information, call them on 01502 565626.

# What should Waveney be like in 2036?

The new Waveney Local Plan will set out how the District will grow and change over the next 20 years, including identifying land for new housing, employment, retail and community uses.



**Waveney District Council is preparing a new Local Plan for the District (excluding the Broads Authority area). Over 3,000 comments were received during the first stage of consultation which asked local people for their ideas on where new development should take place.**

A Local Plan sets out the level of growth which needs to be planned in an area and identifies where that growth should be located and how it should be delivered. It sets out planning policies which the Council will use to determine planning applications in its area. This new Local Plan will review and update the Council's existing Local Plan or Local Development Framework.

Between 22 April and 17 June, we published the document 'Help plan our future: Options for the new Waveney Local Plan'. This marked the first stage of consultation on the new Local Plan and with so many comments received, we would like to thank everyone who provided comments and attended the exhibitions.

## What happens next?

We are currently drawing up the first draft plan. It will be published for consultation in Spring 2017.

First draft - Spring 2017

Final draft - Autumn 2017

Adoption - May 2018

## Keep up to date

To keep up to date on the progress of the new Local Plan please register your details at [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/newwaveneylocalplan](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/newwaveneylocalplan) or telephone the Planning Policy and Delivery Team on 01502 523029/523068.



## Improving Waveney's cycle network

**The Waveney Cycle Strategy sets out the Council's vision for cycling in Waveney.**

It identifies existing issues related to the cycle network including gaps in the existing network, route finding, safety and conflicts between people vehicles, cycles and pedestrians. Potential improvements to the cycle network are put forward with the aim of encouraging more people to cycle. This provides an opportunity for different organisations to work together to further the development, and raise the profile of cycling as an enjoyable activity and means of transport. To view the Waveney Cycle Strategy and an interactive map of issues and suggested improvements visit the Council's website [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk).



# New season at the Marina Theatre!

This season, why not head to the Marina Theatre for an outstanding and varied programme of music, comedy, drama, family theatre and our annual Pantomime. There's something exciting for every age and taste!

**For their spectacular Christmas Pantomime the theatre has teamed up again with award-winning producer Paul Holman Associates to bring their special brand of festive magic to Lowestoft.**

This year they venture back in time to bring you the enduring story 'Beauty and the Beast', the tale of a French girl whose selfless love for the Beast breaks the spell cast upon him and transforms him back into a handsome suitor. With 30 performances between December 13th and January 1st and with tickets starting at just £7.00, this is the Panto not to miss!

**On February 24th Cheryl Fergison [Eastenders] appears in 'Menopause the Musical',** an hysterical show packed full of one-liners about night sweats, hot flushes, memory loss ...

**'Ben & Holly's Little Kingdom' returns to the Marina** for our local little people on March 22nd and 23rd, followed by 'Les Petits' theatre's production of David Walliams fantastical adventure 'The First Hippo on the Moon' from April 26th to 29th.

**There are also two spectacular musicals headline the theatre's Spring programme:** 'Million Dollar Quartet', the story of how 4 stars made Rock'n'Roll history, runs for a week from 3rd April and 'Wonderland', an enchanting adaptation of Lewis Carroll's 'Alice's Adventures in Wonderland' from 23rd May.

Our fabulous live theatre programme is complemented by an exciting mix of film and screened music events on the biggest screen in town, whilst out Theatre Café Bar is a great venue to meet friends and family for coffee and cake or for one of our delicious pre-show meals. Great entertainment, good food and lively conversation, all at YOUR Marina Theatre!

Visit the theatre website at [marinatheatre.co.uk](http://marinatheatre.co.uk) or call the Box Office on 01502 533200



## Helping you make healthy choices

**Greggs and Richardson's Family Entertainment Centre in Lowestoft are amongst the latest Suffolk businesses to receive the prestigious Eat Out, Eat Well accolade from Waveney District Council for the wide variety of healthier food choices they offer to customers.**

It comes after rigorous assessments looking in detail at the choices people are offered, ways in which food is cooked and how healthier options are promoted.

Cllr Mary Rudd, Waveney's cabinet member for Community Health and Safety, said "I am really thrilled that we have been able to recognise and reward Greggs and Richardson's for making healthier food choices on offer".

Robert Mayes-Smith, General Manager at Richardson's Entertainment Centre said "I feel very passionate about healthier life styles for my staff and customers alike. Just some small changes to how we do things can make a

massive difference to how we sell our products and the healthier options which we can make available as an alternative. Having no options or healthier alternatives in a society of ever increasing obesity especially in the younger generation isn't an option at all."

Eat Out Eat Well was launched earlier this year by local environmental health teams and Suffolk County Council's public health team. It rewards businesses for their commitment to providing customers with healthier food options and helping people to make healthier choices.

The scheme encourages businesses to commit to providing healthier options, such as the type of oil used in cooking, offering vegetables and salads, using wholegrains where possible, keep-

ing fat, sugar and salt to a minimum, and selling standard sized packs of chocolate and crisps. Find out more at [www.healthysuffolk.org.uk](http://www.healthysuffolk.org.uk).



# Belle on the ball with funding boost

**Thanks to support from Waveney District Council, Lowestoft company Belle Coachworks Group has recently secured £90,000 of grant funding to expand their business and take on four apprentices.**

Founded in 1952 under the family business name of BR Shreeve & Sons, Belle Coachworks became a company in its own right in 2000 headed up by Daniel Shreeve. Daniel contacted Waveney's Economic Development Team in late 2015 to discuss future proofing his business with a vision to expand the premises and take on new contracts. Following this initial meeting, Waveney, through Economic Development Officer Cheryl Willis, brokered discussions with Glen Moore, local Growth Hub Adviser from New Anglia LEP, to discuss what grants might be available, as well as with Lowestoft College to explore possible training solutions.

Daniel has since been successful in securing a total of over £90,000 through the Growing Business Fund for a series of expansion projects including building a vehicle bay, lift truck and installing of a software system and a CNC press brake system.

The company also worked closely with Lowestoft College to design a bespoke training solution resulting in them employing four new apprentices in September 2016, with further apprentices planned for the near future. These apprentices are studying a blend of mechanical and electrical engineering craft skills. Ferlin Quantrill, Business and Innovation Manager at Lowestoft College said: "It is fantastic to see Belle Coachworks expanding at this rate and investing in new equipment, skills and



engineering apprentices. We are very pleased to have been involved in this project and to work with the company on the selection of candidates as well as the design of a training solution that has suited the rapid growth of the business". In addition, nine staff have been helped towards achieving their training goals through the financial support of the Employer Training Incentive Pilot.

Glen Moore Growth Hub Adviser added "It's great to see companies like this in Lowestoft doing so well. Belle Coachworks have now received three grants via the New Anglia Growth Hub and these grants have made a real difference, enabling the company to grow and

create many new highly skilled jobs and Apprenticeships for the area. We are always keen to help companies like this expand and grow and we would recommend that any company in a similar situation should make contact". Daniel commented that without the support of Waveney District Council's Economic Development Team he would never have been aware of the level of support that is available to help drive enterprise and develop the technology and skills that his business needed to compete in the 21st century.

For information on the Growing Business Fund plus other funding opportunities go to [www.waveneymeansbusiness.co.uk](http://www.waveneymeansbusiness.co.uk).

## New signs are a step in the right direction

**Eye-catching new signs will be installed throughout Lowestoft next year, linking together key attractions and encouraging visitors to explore the town.**

A joint project funded by Lowestoft Vision and Waveney District Council will deliver new pedestrian wayfinding signage which will guide visitors from Kensington Gardens in the south through to Sparrows Nest Gardens in the north. The signs will encourage visitors to explore the award-winning South Beach, Kirkley Village, Royal Plain, Station Square, the town centre, the historic High Street and Ness Point. The new signs aim to improve navigation around the town and will highlight places of interest, as well as indicating interesting side streets and 'hidden gems'. The signs will be in the form of finger-posts and totem-style double-

sided stands displaying maps and information and will also give distance and estimated walking times.

Improved 'wayfinding' was identified as a priority in the Lowestoft Coastal Community Team's Seafront Strategy, after a 2015 visitor survey highlighted a need for better pedestrian signage and increased availability of displays and maps.

Cllr Michael Ladd, Waveney District Council's cabinet member for Tourism, Economic Development and Rural Affairs said: "Attractive, eye-catching and consistent signage will guide visitors through the town and allow them to discover key attractions, such as the Blue Flag beach, the historic Scores and a variety of public spaces.

"High-quality visitor information enhances the

overall experience for visitors, encouraging people to stay for longer and also visit again as people explore new areas. New signage will support the many small independent businesses in the town by raising the profile of places away from the main shopping area and with tourism identified as a key growth sector in the east Suffolk Business Plan, this is definitely a step in the right direction."

Darren Newman, Manager of Lowestoft Vision BID, part of the Suffolk Chamber of Commerce said: "In 2015 Lowestoft Vision commissioned a review of wayfinding and signposting through Lowestoft. Since this time we have been working in partnership with Waveney District Council to develop effective wayfinding through the town as a way of driving footfall and so boasting local businesses."

**PHA**  
paul holman associates

Paul Holman Associates and the Marina Theatre Lowestoft Present

*Hollyoaks, Holby City, Dancing on Ice*

**JEREMY EDWARDS**

*Britain's Got Talent*

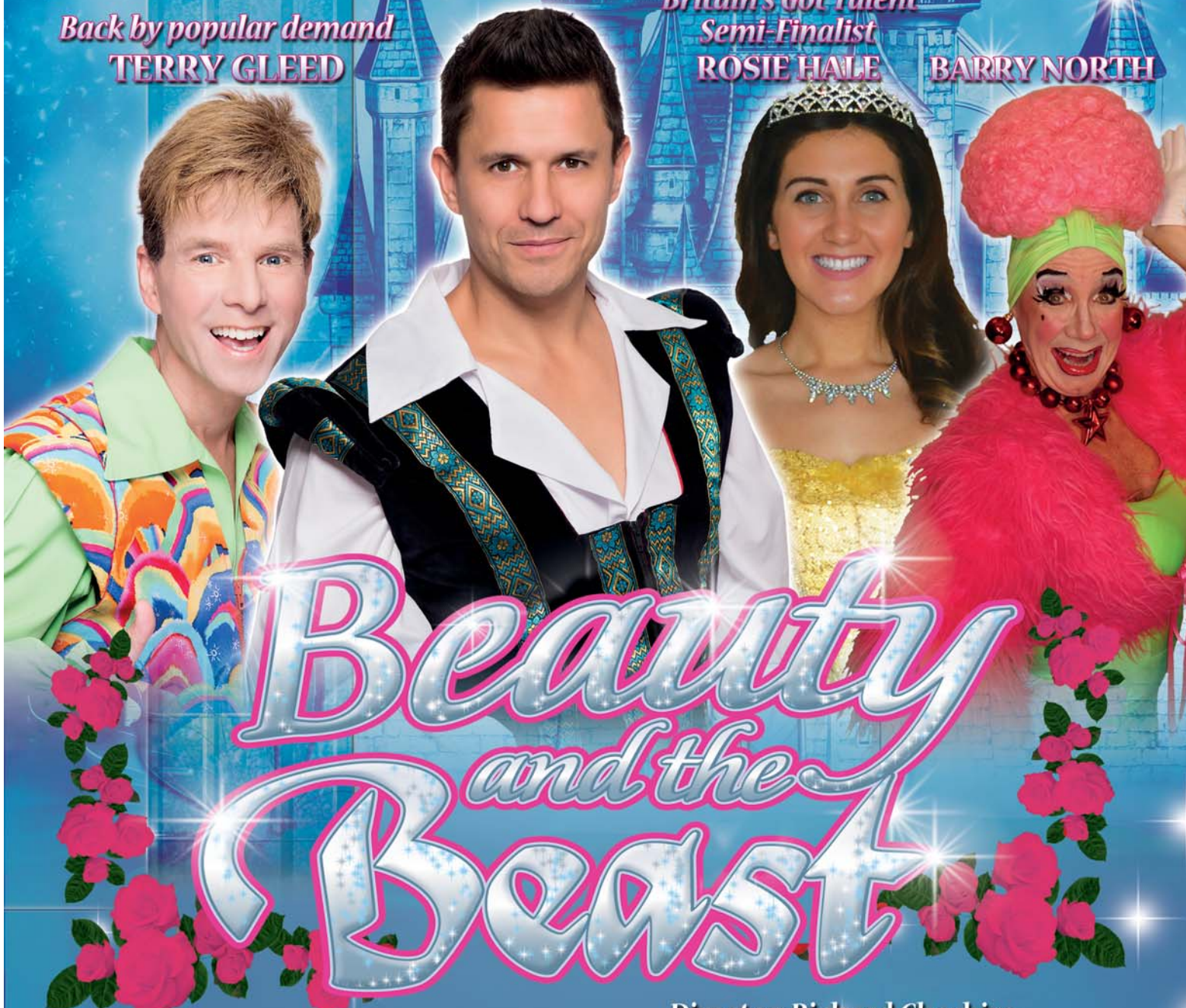
*Semi-Finalist*

**ROSIE HALE**

**BARRY NORTH**

*Back by popular demand*

**TERRY GLEED**



**Beauty  
and the  
Beast**

June Glennie  
School of Dance

Director: Richard Cheshire  
Choreographer: Helen Jeckells

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