

Parish Report - December 2019

Councillor
Penny Otton

Meadowside
High Street
Rattlesden, Bury St Edmunds
IP30 0RA

Telephone: 07545423847
Email: penny.otton@suffolk.gov.uk



Impact of general election moratorium

The election moratorium started on 6 November, and consequently a number of decisions and meetings at Suffolk County Council have been delayed. The Council is unable to launch consultations during the moratorium, so the long-awaited children's centre consultation will need to wait until the new year. We still don't have any information about when exactly this consultation will be ready. Finally, the Council has made the decision to postpone any meetings of the Climate Emergency Policy Development Panel until the new year. However I noticed that some councils did continue to hold cabinet and council meetings, so have asked the monitoring officer why Suffolk has been so strict.

Children and Young People

The Home-to-School Transport budget forecast has increased from Quarter 1 to show an overspend of £1.2m. This increase of £0.4m is due to costs associated with additional temporary staff due to the changes to free school transport and the potential implications nationally of a legal case currently ongoing between a complainant and North Yorkshire County Council regarding the ability to sell surplus seats on buses which are not compliant with Public Services Vehicle Accessibility Regulations.

Rights of Way Improvement Plan published

Suffolk County Council's Rights of Way Improvement Plan (2020-30) was agreed by the Cabinet on 6 November. The delivery plan focuses on four key areas: managing green access infrastructure; improving green access infrastructure; promoting green access; and developing healthy and sustainable communities.

Measures proposed by the plan include creating a digital map of the county's footpaths and bridleways and a new system to prioritise maintenance of highly-used routes. The plan also focuses on sustainable travel choices and the health benefits of walking and cycling.

FINBOROUGH ROAD; I am meeting the residents next to the red willows site to see how to get the footpath progressed and the effect of the new proposal at Union road.

KILN LANE; this has been looked at again also the problem with the waste collection.

TRADING STANDARDS; have put out an alert re; scam TV licensing and "dodgy" fish sellers.

HIGH SHERIFFS FUND; for young people projects; 8-25 deadline 1st January

Best wishes for a happy Christmas and successful new year.