

Date: 1 June 2021



Email: simon.harley@suffolk.gov.uk

Parish Report for June 2021

Dear Parish Council,

My report is as follows:

I have been attending induction training sessions over the last month in subjects such as Cyber security, Understanding the Council's decision making process, Committees, Finance, Procedures at Meetings, Equality and Inclusion, Growth, Highways and Infrastructure, Public Health, Adult and Community Services, and have quite a lot more to attend in June and July.

There has not been much in the way of Council business at the stage of the 4 year cycle but we had the AGM of the County Council at Wherstead Park on 27th May. The next full Council Meeting is on 8th July.

The meeting on 27th May was a formal session essentially to decide the new administration structure and individuals. The Conservative Party are a very dominant force with 55 Councillors and nominated and elected Graham Newman again as Chairman and Matthew Hicks as Leader of the Council. They also nominated the Chairs of all the Committees including those of Scrutiny, despite it being pointed out that it was felt to be good practice to include members of the opposition group in at least some of these posts.

The opposition 'GLI' group, of which I am a member, comprises the 9 Green Party Councillors with 4 Liberal Democrats and 2 Independents. The leader of this group is Andrew Stringer. I have been appointed group spokesperson on Public Health and Biodiversity.

The dominant group have promised to 'Build back better and greener' and we will be trying to hold them to account for this, and work for the benefit of all the people of Suffolk.

My other work this month has consisted of responding to emails from residents, usually about Highway matters, and registering these problems with Highways.

I have received the following press release which is of interest to us on the Peninsula:

Suffolk Waste Partnership News release:

For immediate release: Tuesday 25 May 2021

For more information please contact: Cheryl Gray, Senior Communications Officer, 01473264389, Cheryl.Gray@suffolk.gov.uk

Images are available to download via: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/suffolkcountycouncil/albums/72157719221070032>

#Scrapflytipping campaign says there is no excuse.

Flytipping remains an issue in Suffolk as it does across the entire country, with more than four and a half thousand incidents reported last year alone. It costs hundreds of thousands of pounds to clear and this is paid for by Suffolk residents, as well as farmers and other landowners.

In response, Suffolk's Flytipping Action Group (STAG) which includes the county, district and borough councils, the Environment Agency, Suffolk Constabulary, the Forestry Commission, the Broads Authority, the National Farmers' Union (NFU) and the Country Land and Business Association (CLA), is promoting the **#Scrapflytipping** campaign.

Cllr. James Mallinder, Chair of the Suffolk Waste Partnership, said:

"There is no excuse for flytipping and it will not be tolerated in Suffolk. It is an incredibly selfish act and a blight on our local environment, a source of pollution, a potential danger to public health and a hazard to wildlife.

"Part of the problem is caused when people allow their waste to be taken away by unlicensed waste carriers, so it is essential that the public make sure that only licensed waste carriers are used. This can be easily checked by asking to see their Waste Carrier Licence or by looking up the company, either on the Environment Agency website or by telephoning 03708 506 506."

If illegally discarded, waste is traced back to the owner and if a licenced waste carrier hasn't been used to dispose of the waste, then the owner will be fined. Even if it wasn't the owner who carried out the act of flytipping.

Members of the public and businesses are being urged to remember the SCRAP code to stop flytipping in Suffolk:

- Suspect ALL waste carriers.
- Check with the Environment Agency on 03708 506 506 that the provider taking your waste away is licensed.
- Refuse unexpected offers to have waste taken away.
- Ask what will happen to your waste.
- Paperwork should be obtained – get a full receipt.

For more information about fly-tipping and legal ways to get rid of unwanted items, please see www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk/fly-tipping.

ENDS

Notes to editors:

The **#Scrapflytipping** campaign will launch on 25 May 2021 and will be promoted across Suffolk by all partners until April 2022.

Cllr. James Mallinder, Chair of the Suffolk Waste Partnership, is available for interview upon request. Please contact Cheryl.Gray@Suffolk.gov.uk.

Yours faithfully,

Simon Harley
County Councillor for Peninsula Division