

TOP-TEN REPORT FOR BUNGAY AND THE VILLAGES (MAY 2023)

East Suffolk Councillors Toby Hammond and Anthony Specca

1. We're grateful to the residents of Bungay and the villages for electing us so decisively at the recent election. We pledge to work hard for all residents in our new roles as your representatives on East Suffolk Council.
2. The Green, Liberal Democrat and Independent Groups on Council have combined in a 'GLI Group', which holds the majority of seats. Anthony was instrumental in drafting the agreement bringing our three Groups together.
3. As the largest Group on Council, the GLI Group has now formed the new Administration. The Leader of the Council is Caroline Topping, Green Councillor for Beccles.
4. Anthony has been elected Chair of Council. He's responsible for chairing Council meetings, and for guarding the Council's democratic integrity. He also serves as Civic Head of East Suffolk, and he recently attended the Suffolk Show in his new capacity.
5. Toby has been appointed as Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Transport. He's responsible for economic development, regeneration, growth and skills, enterprise zones, transport, car parks, and rights of way.
6. Like our fellow Councillors of all political parties, we've also been appointed to various committees and bodies, such as the Audit and Governance Committee (Anthony) and the Planning North Committee (Toby).
7. The first few weeks of our new tenure has inevitably involved a lot of paperwork, training sessions, and generally getting our feet under the desks.
8. We plan to attend as many town/parish council meetings as possible. In May we attended two meetings of Bungay Town Council; and one meeting of the Flixton, St Cross South Elmham and St Margaret South Elmham Joint Parish Council.
9. We also attended the recent Shipmeadow Solar Farm Public Information Day. Many residents have been in touch with their concerns about this proposed project. We continue to monitor it closely, and we're especially pushing for the developer to include tangible benefits for affected communities in any formal proposal to Council.
10. Our other on-going work includes acting on resident requests for help with street problems, responding to the recent HGV strike on a historic building in Bungay, and coordinating behind the scenes to try and resolve the long-running Millstream Bridge problem at the Bungay Staithe.