

Report to parishes for the month of August 2023 by Suffolk County Councillor Judy Cloke

Three Saints South Elmham

Following on from my Road Trip with Cllr Patrick , I have reported more potholes in the parish and have received responses from Highways that most of them will be repaired . I have also received a message to say the degradation of the kerbs following the lorry diversion and I have offered to sponsor the new footpath map.

Ellough:

I attended a public meeting hosted by VC Cooke to discuss their incinerator plans. It was disappointing some people tried to hijack the meeting, which descended into chaos in my view. Peter Aldous asked for a full Environmental assessment before an operational licence is issued for the site.

Ilketshall St Andrew

I have spoken to Highways about replacing the fingerpost near the village hall and I have emailed the EA about the expansion of the slurry pit, they have asked me some questions, to which I have replied but have heard no more- on my list to chase.

I have had a reply from RES to my letter of some months ago and I was invited by Pauric McClosky to the online meeting with the STOP group which took place last week , but I was unable to attend. I will share his reply to my letter. I have also facilitated further discussions between Pauric and Suffolk Highways officers.

Flixton:

I have been trying for a long time (nearly a year) to get a Housing Officer from ESC to visit St Felix Rise – two came on 15 August and we had a long and productive meeting , which I reported back to Cllr Warne. I also had a long phone conversation with an SCC planning officer about the proposed Buck gravel extraction.

Bungay:

I attended a meeting with Wayne Saunders (Highways) in Orchids Close about ASB with which Sam had been involved , there was meant to be a Police rep there but he spoke with Wayne by phone . We then went to look at the footpath from Hillside East to Ecclestone Close which is being driven over, about which I have received complaints. He confirmed the footpath is not Highways land.

Wayne and I have also met with Cllr Dawes regarding our proposed plans for a temporary traffic system in Bungay.

The Housing officers I met in Flixton came to Bungay with me and we discussed the footpath as in item 1 above , they took photos and offered to report back to me , we also visited a resident of Joyce Rd who had seen me at a surgery with an issue and I pointed out to them the problems of flooding at the parking area for Festival Flats . I've not heard anything on any of these issues, so will follow up.

County wide news :

A140

Residents are being invited to have their say on ways to improve road safety and traffic flow on the A140.

Suffolk County Council has identified three junctions on the A140 – the Thornham Magna junction, the A1120 Earl Stonham junction, and the A140/B1078 junction, which also connects to the A14 – as pinch-point areas that may benefit from improvement.

The assessments show that these junctions are likely to suffer from increasing traffic congestion and associated road safety problems in the future.

Analysis has also shown that they lack sufficient infrastructure for active travel and passenger transport.

With these concerns in mind, the county council is seeking the public's feedback to inform future bids for funding from the Department of Transport to improve the junctions.

A public survey has launched today and will run for six weeks, closing on Sunday 15 October. More information and a link to the survey can be found at www.suffolk.gov.uk/a140

No Cold Calling Zone

Residents in Kessingland have become the 200th community in the county to be part of a No Cold Calling Zone.

The zone covers 96 properties in Hall Road, The Fellowship Green, Solomon Road and Maram Green, as part of a scheme run by Suffolk Trading Standards that works to make people feel safer in their homes.

The zone was chosen by a Trading Standards officer after a resident was fleeced of more than £8,000 by a rogue trader who called at their door.

Gull Wing Bridge update

Lowestoft residents are being advised that the Gull Wing contractor, Farrans, has applied for an extension of the closure of Denmark Road to allow for the completion of the highway works on the northern side of Lake Lothing.

The road closure is now expected to be in place until the end of October as the building of the new northern roundabout and approach road to the bridge, including new drainage, attenuation ponds, and utilities works, are taking longer than previously estimated.

Construction of the bridge itself continues to make good progress, with seven of the bridge's eight spans already lifted into place. The concreting of the bridge deck slabs is well underway on both sides of Lake Lothing, and the new control room at the top of the control tower is under construction. The plant room building is also currently being fitted out with the power supply, hydraulic pumps, communications equipment, and other building services.

Possible damage to coastline:

Suffolk County Council is disappointed to learn that the LionLink interconnector project from National Grid Ventures has identified an alternative landfall at Walberswick, with cable routing making its way to the north of Southwold.

The Council will study the details of the new proposals, and will prepare its response to the National Grid's second public consultation, which opens on 8 September.

Judy Cloke

4 September 2023