

Greenprint Forum newsletter winter 2023-2024

As part of our annual programme of winter work parties, “Action for Nature”, we recently organised a couple of sessions for members of our network, alongside the Countryside Team at East Suffolk Services Ltd, to get stuck into direct practical action in the form of conservation management tasks at countryside sites managed by ESSL on behalf of the council.

On 18 December, a small but enthusiastic team of 4 were led by Ranger Matt O’Connell on a tree planting exercise at Woods Meadow in Oulton Broad, where the creation of a new woodland of 5.8 ha on a former arable field is now in its third winter of planting.

Then on 26 January, 8 of us headed out to Upper Hollesley Common under the direction of Countryside Officer Chris Ryde for a session of removing saplings to help preserve and enhance the rare habitat of lowland heath, with the site being part of the SSSI Sutton & Hollesley Heaths.

Whilst we hope to arrange more of these sessions next winter in partnership between Greenprint and ESSL, you don’t have to wait until then if you want to get stuck in with regular volunteering as the Countryside Team are always on the lookout for new volunteers to assist in their regular programme of activities with the Footprints Countryside Conservation Volunteers. Feel free to contact Chris if you would like to find out more about volunteering with Footprints: chris.ryde@east Suffolk services.co.uk

Below: creating the woodland at Woods Meadow



Above: restoring the heathland at Upper Holleslev Common

Meanwhile, it has been confirmed that 2023 turned out to be the warmest year on record globally [Copernicus: 2023 is the hottest year on record, with global temperatures close to the 1.5°C limit | Copernicus](#)

But the immensity of the issues we face on the global scale is not deterring leading lights from across our network from forging ahead and getting on with stuff locally. Read on to be informed and inspired by content from our contributors to this issue, including Britain’s first pub to host a Swift Tower; Great Bealings Climate Emergency Response Squad; a river clean in Saxmundham; woodland care in Ufford; and action for hedgehogs. There’s also a roundup of current support to householders, communities and businesses from the local environmental charity, including upcoming training sessions for anyone interested in becoming a Climate & Energy Champion for their community.



Swift Tower at the Eels Foot Inn

Drinkers at a Suffolk pub will soon be able to enjoy a 'swift pint'literally! For it is believed to be the only one in Britain to have its very own Swift Tower in the beer garden.

The eight-metre high construction, built from a felled cedar tree, in the garden of the Eel's Foot pub in Eastbridge, bordering the famous RSPB reserve at Minsmere, will house 47 nest boxes, allowing pubgoers to get a close up view of these much-loved birds.

Funding has come from nature groups, companies, private individuals and grants from the government funded charity, the Suffolk & Essex Coast & Heaths National Landscape. It also received £1000 from the small grants scheme Nature First which was funded by East Suffolk Council with the award made by a volunteer panel from the Steering Group of the Greenprint Forum.



The idea to build and site the tower at the Eel's Foot came from president of [Waveney Bird Club](#), Steve Piotrowski. The Eastbridge pub is well used by nature lovers including the presenters and crew from BBC's Springwatch when they broadcast the popular series from Minsmere.

The tower will officially open in the first week of May which is around the time swifts arrive in Britain after their long-distance migration from Africa. They tend to nest in the eaves of buildings or in other suitable sites and while there are other swift towers in public parks and areas, this is thought to be the only one in a pub.

But swift numbers in the UK have declined in recent years, estimated to have fallen by 60 per cent since 1995 according to Breeding Bird Survey data and thought to be a caused by a combination of changing summer weather leading to a decline in their insect food and the continued loss of suitable nesting sites.

Steve Piotrowski said: "Swifts are an integral feature of a British summer. Their arrival signals summer is on the way while their agility in the air has inspired poets over the centuries. They are also very sociable so will not mind nesting in a beer garden full of people. In return, pubgoers will be able to enjoy the sound and spectacle as they enjoy a pint."

A speaker will play swift calls to encourage the birds to nest in the tower while the project has been supported by the pub's brewery owners, Suffolk-based Adnams.

And soon after completion, the tower passed its first test, withstanding gusts of around 100 kmh from Storm Isha in January!

Steve shares more about how the project came about, on the page following.



Swift Tower – some background

It all sounded so simple: find and purchase a Douglas Fir pole, arrange for suitable ornate carving, attach a purpose-built nesting chamber and sink it in the ground. Easy, we thought! However, after inspection of a similar buried pole, this method of support was considered undesirable due to the risk of decay. To find a solution a Structural Engineer was engaged and working together we devised a method that would support the pole without burying the base into the ground. The pole was to be supported by steelwork largely concealed and located within a brickwork chamber with supporting concrete foundations.

The structure was to be built, subject to obtaining Planning Permission, within the grounds of the Eels Foot Inn at Eastbridge. With planning and design complete, we gathered funds so that construction could start in December 2023 followed by completion of the build in January 2024. Gilleard Bros (the Company who built the Access for All Path at RSPB Minsmere) were appointed to undertake the works. We are proud to announce that the build is now complete and our magnificent tower is there for all to admire.

Funding was and remains a challenge and the project wouldn't have happened without the enormous support of Suffolk & Essex Coast & Heaths National Landscapes (formerly Coast and Heaths AONB) who provided encouragement along with financial support. We have also received funding from East Suffolk's Nature First initiative and received very generous donations, including a bequest, from members of Waveney Bird Club.

The swift tower serves as a landmark to raising public awareness to the plight of this species. Additionally, the structure provides 40 potential nesting sites for what is one of the UK's most charismatic and threatened species. We anticipate the tower will attract hundreds of visitors each year and we can safely say that the Eels Foot Inn is the only pub in Britain to have its own swift tower.

Waveney Bird Club and Adnams Brewery (the landowner) intend to jointly host an official opening on Tuesday 7th May 2024 on the same date as we welcome back migrating swifts to the Suffolk skies.

As a Club, we must thank our design team members: Project Manager – Steve Piotrowski (retired Civil Engineer); Rob Gooderham (Architect); Project Officer – Bob Flindall (retired Planning Officer); Mark Broughton (WBC Chairman) and Chris Parr (retired Chartered Construction Manager). All have given their time freely and worked tirelessly on this project. Their commitment should be commended.

Steve Piotrowski, President of Waveney Bird Club



Bee Cafes, the Ipswich Northern B Pass, and the Great Bealings Climate Emergency Rapid Response Squad

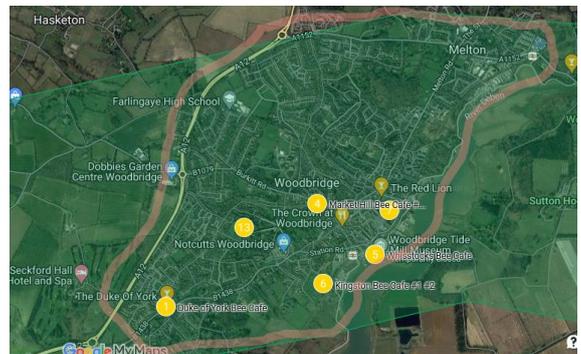
The [Gt Bealings Climate Emergency Rapid Response Squad](#) was formed in 2021 from the local pacifist elements of eXtinction Rebellion and the still functional elders of Gt. Bealings. Their mission is to save humanity from total climate extinction without being impolite or causing anyone inconvenience. The plan to achieve this is by local achievable initiatives such as winning the Eco Shed of the Year , completed in 2023, and creating new wildlife corridors such as the Ipswich Northern B Pass to be completed in 2024.

The charity Buglife has defined a national network of pollinator corridors called [B-Lines](#) but there is a problem, pollinators can rarely cross highly urbanised landscapes, so B-Lines mostly don't cross towns and cities like Birmingham. To tackle this problem, the Squad provides large pollinator feeding stations, called Bee Cafes, that are made of stack-able wooden crates packed with bee-friendly plants in bloom from March to October. Bee Cafes are placed to fill pollen gaps where urban gardens do not. This way existing mostly rural B-Lines can be extended to cross urban locations and the first example of this is Woodbridge.



B-lines of the UK

Woodbridge Town Council have funded 10 Bee Cafes to provide the urban leg of a new wildlife corridor called the Ipswich Northern B Pass, which will link the existing Ipswich and Rendlesham B-Lines. This allows Suffolk bees to move around, find food and escape climate change.



Locations of bee cafes in Woodbridge

Bee Cafes use natural materials like wood and hessian that are both attractive and ecological, as opposed to the typical equivalent planters made from black plastic.

Blooms are provided by [Katie's Garden Plant Centre](#) and are predominately native perennial wildflowers that are planned to last while the bees need them through to autumn. Routine watering is reduced with 120 litres of rainwater harvesting and a tiny solar pump.



*Right: the
bee café at
Whisstocks,
Woodbridge*

Paul Martin,
Great Bealings Climate Emergency Rapid Response Squad



TREE POPPING IN PARKLANDS WOOD, UFFORD

Whilst many others are planting trees to create woodland, in Ufford we are managing an established mature wood that was part of a parkland surrounding Ufford Place. After WWII the property was demolished, part of the site was used for housing, part for Ufford Park's Golf Course and the remaining 9 hectare wood was acquired by the then East Suffolk District Council. Ufford Parish Council purchased the woodland approximately 10 years ago. A Management Plan and a Felling Licence was agreed with the Forestry Commission and our group [Friends of Parklands Wood](#) was established. Working groups have met on a regular basis at least twice a month.



The wood has mature Oaks, Limes, Chestnuts, Sycamores, Ash and Elms. There are also Ferns, Brambles and Nettles, and by letting more light into the wood, a greater number of wild flowers, blue bells, lilies of the valley, and foxgloves can now be seen.



The Sycamore trees within the wood have very successfully seeded, with saplings springing up very densely in large areas; in fact, lock down helped them to almost take over! Luckily, one of our volunteers had previously joined work parties at Minsmere and had used a Tree Popper; we felt that they would be ideal for pulling out the saplings as some had grown to 6 to 8 feet (1.8 – 2.4 m) tall. We arranged the loan of 2 tree poppers from [Nature Conservation Services](#) and when they arrived they were immediately a great success.

Before using the Tree Poppers we had to either pull out the smaller saplings and dig out the larger ones, now we were able to pull out 100's in about half an hour!! BUT we needed to find the funding to purchase the Poppers and that is where the Greenprint Forum's small grants scheme Nature First was able to help. So together with help from Ufford Parish Council, we were able to purchase the 2 Poppers and a Sack Barrow to transport them around the wood. THANK YOU. We have lost count of the number of sycamore trees we have been able to remove and that has enabled our newly planted sapling Oaks, Silver Birch, Hawthorn, Cherry, Hazel and Hornbeam to thrive. Some of these were donated by Notcutts and Swan's Nursery.

Following the felling of a Redwood Tree due to safety issues, the trunk was chainsaw carved into a seat with animals and other timber was carved into various animals and insects that are now located in the wood. On the site of Parklands Wood there is the Football Field, Tennis Court, Community Hall and Car Parking. Also two Explanation Boards close to the Play Area the first was part funded by the Greenprint Forum, some years later the National Lottery part funded the second board, along with a Bat Survey and the Chain Saw Carving.

Please come and visit our woodlands, there are Public Footpaths within the wood.

Jane Hawthorne, Chair of the Friends of Parklands Wood and Ufford Parish Councillor



Help a Hedgehog Event at Campsea Ashe, Saturday 18 November 2023



Bryony with two rescued baby hedgehogs

It was good to see some 50 people from Campsea Ashe and neighbouring communities come together on a wet Saturday afternoon to listen to local hedgehog rescuer Bryony Farmer.

After a brief introduction from our Parish Clerk, Klaus Fortmann, the children worked enthusiastically on the craft table constructing and painting model hedgehogs while Bryony described the hedgehogs' predicament and what we can all do to help.

Hedgehogs are on the UK's Red List, having declined from an estimated 36 million to less than 1 million in the last fifty years. That puts them on a level with the oft-quoted Asian Tiger in terms of risk of extinction. And as hedgehogs are an indicator species, they reveal the dire state of our natural ecosystems – the UK is now regarded as one of the most nature-depleted countries in the world.

The hedgehog's main predator has always been the badger. But badgers and hedgehogs both eat the same diet of invertebrates and co-exist successfully while food is plentiful, so badger predation has never been much of a problem. It's been the 20th century proliferation of motor vehicles (hedgehogs have no flight reflex so curl up rather than run) that have decimated hedgehog populations, along with our modern dependence on pesticides. This has gone hand in hand with hedgerow loss, scrub clearance and suburban development which have depleted habitats from which food can be sourced.

Interestingly, population decline has slowed in urban areas, but continues apace in the countryside – especially in East Anglia. There is much that landowners and farmers can do to expand hedgehog habitats and food supplies (such as reducing pesticide use, replacing and maintaining hedges, flailing on a three-year cycle instead of every winter, widening field margins and headlands, and establishing beetle banks in arable fields) but those of us with gardens can also have a beneficial effect by "re-wilding" parts of our gardens with long grass, brambles and log piles which give shelter and food, and maybe even by providing hedgehog houses and feeding stations.

Bryony showed us how to make simple shelters from old bricks and plastic boxes and provided plans for those with basic carpentry skills. Adam, one of *Wild About Campsea's* volunteers, had built several examples of hog-houses and feeding stations and these were raffled off, together with some books and a bottle of wine as the end of the evening.

The other significant difference we can all make is to improve the connectivity of our gardens. Hedgehogs forage far and wide for food, travelling 2 km or more each night. If every garden was connected to neighbouring gardens (with the neighbour's permission!) by cutting 13 cm x 13 cm holes in our fences (sufficient for hedgehogs but too small for most dogs), access to food supply would improve and less energy would be spent in finding it. This is crucial in the summer breeding season and in the autumn when hedgehogs must put on weight to prepare for hibernation.

One of Adam's hedgehog houses, ready for burial under logs and leaves.



Continued on next page

Help a Hedgehog (continued)

Campsea Ashe Parish Council has funded the purchase of fifty “hedgehog highway” templates for cutting and edging holes in fences and these were given away at the event, along with an offer to supply volunteers for fitting them. Bryony also offered to host a training session at her home next summer for young people and adults interested in hedgehog rescue work. But before taking on such work in a fit of enthusiasm, ask yourself if you are prepared to get up every few hours to give night feeds and then up each morning for cleaning duties!

Our thanks go to Bryony, to Nikki Fowler, another hedgehog rescuer from Wickham Market, who assisted with the Q &A, and to all the *Wild About Campsea* volunteers who managed the hog-house construction work, the children’s activities and the refreshments.



Plenty of hedgehog related crafts for the children

Peter Marett, Wild About Campsea

Further information, including advice for gardeners, land developers and farmers:

- www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk
- www.ptes.org
- www.hedgehogstreet.org
- www.wildaboutgardens.org.uk/sites/default/files/2022-03/16597%20WAG%20-%20Hedgehog%2016pp%20Booklet%20AW%20web.pdf
- www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/hedgehogwelfare
- www.rspca.org.uk/adviceandwelfare/wildlife/hedgehogs

Funding available for community action on climate change

Funding is now available for community projects which are tackling climate change and carbon reduction. Applications are being invited for The Suffolk Climate Action Community Match Funder which is available to charities, community interest companies, parish councils, voluntary groups and other not-for-profit organisations, whose projects contribute to [the Climate Emergency Plan for Suffolk](#). The fund is provided by the Suffolk Public Sector Leaders group, and administered by the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership, as part of its work on climate action. The fund offers match funding of up to 50%, or a maximum of £10,000 towards the cost of a project. Projects could include:

- Improving the energy efficiency of buildings (e.g. solar panels, insulation, glazing)
- Promoting walking and cycling (e.g. organised walks/rides, community bike schemes)
- The use of sustainable/recycled materials (e.g. building refurbishment, play areas)
- Raising awareness of climate change through events (e.g. community events to promote low carbon)

Visit [Suffolk Climate Action Community Match Funder – Green Suffolk](#) for full eligibility details and to submit your applications.



A Hedgehog Rescue Newsflash

In November, your Editor became aware of the action of couple of colleagues at East Suffolk Council, Paula and Fiona, who gave crucial help to some hedgehogs in need. We caught up with them to find out more.

Paula told us: "From an early age I have always taken an active role in rescuing and rehabilitating wildlife and returning them to the wild. Unlike domestic and farm animals, wildlife sometimes needs our intervention to enable them to live a full and happy life free from pain or discomfort.

"Since moving to a village near Woodbridge, I have taken in various wildlife following calls from members of the public or local vets. I am extremely lucky to have the help and support of the team at Whitworth Veterinary Practice in Trimley St Mary. Once the wildlife is ready for release, I will always look to return them to the area from which they came, unless it is unknown or unsafe.

"This summer, unfortunately 4 hoglets lost their mother weeks after being born and required hand rearing. Once they had reached over 600 g, I started looking for a safe location for a soft release, and that's how I came to know Fiona. Fiona kindly took the hoglets and provided a safe area in her garden for them to become accustomed to living their best life and learn to forage for food."



*Left – the four orphaned hoglets;
Right – hedgehogs in Fiona's garden*



Fiona added:

"As I had meetings when I collected the hoglets they spent some time at East Suffolk House getting to meet some of the staff. The hoglets settled in well and were initially kept them in a secure area of my garden until they were big enough to safely hibernate and were then released into the garden. My neighbours and I created a hedgehog highway allowing them to pass between our gardens and into the surrounding fields and wooded area.

"I still put out food and water for them and occasionally see them visiting to supplement their diet of worms and slugs – my plants are looking a lot healthier!"

In addition to the advice in Peter's article above, it's also a good idea to always check for hedgehogs (and frogs, toads and other small animals) before strimming or mowing, and keep any pea netting 22-30 cm off the ground so hedgehogs don't get tangled in it. If you have a pond, provide some means of escape for small animals that may fall in by accident to enable them to clamber out again; whilst hedgehogs can swim, they will drown if they cannot rescue themselves from a body of water.

Wildlife walk created in Saxmundham play-park with help from Community Payback scheme

Cllr Benjamin Gulliford is leading a project to transform an overgrown and unused area into a welcoming, educational wildlife walk. The neglected area of Seaman Avenue play park has long been overgrown. But thanks to a Community Services project, this small but well-used park will soon provide an educational space for young people to learn about and enjoy nature. The new area will showcase a range of flora and fauna as well as bug hotels, bird-boxes and informative signage, teaching people about what they can see.



After the initial ecology report, work has started to cultivate the space, managing the existing plants and preserving the habitats they provide; whilst also planting new native species, creating a pathway, wildlife walk and peaceful space for people to enjoy. Local community groups are also involved in building bird boxes and bug hotels to bring even more wildlife to the area.

Saxmundham Town Council

Can you help clean up the River Fromus?

The Town Council have been approached by a resident of Saxmundham who would like to create a working party to clean up the River Fromus and its tributaries.

The vision is to clean up the river by removing the accumulated debris, cutting back the invasive vegetation, and monitoring the quality of the water. The Council thinks this initiative to keep the Fromus flowing is timely considering the recent flooding around town. We are looking for a group of community-minded volunteers to get this initiative underway so please contact me if you would like to help amy.rayner@saxmundham-tc.gov.uk



Amy Rayner, Environment Co-Ordinator,
Saxmundham Town Council



Groundwork East – roundup of current support available

Are you aware of these free energy efficiency support services currently available for a limited time to Suffolk residents, Businesses, and VCSEs? Could you benefit? Or do you know anyone else who could?

Net Zero Business Advisor Service – Free Support available

Collins Skip Hire who provide skip hire across Suffolk and Essex, has taken its next step in understanding its carbon footprint, recently taking up the current free carbon footprinting and tailored decarbonization plan offered for Suffolk businesses as part of the Net Zero Business Advisor Service.

The report breaks down the carbon footprint of the different areas of the business, offers suggestions of how to reduce this (in this case by 87%), and links to funding sources that can help support the changes going forward.



The support that Collins Skip Hire received was free, and is open to all businesses operating in Suffolk with a premises location based in the county. If you, or anyone you know of, are interested in understanding your carbon footprint, and how to make your first or next steps towards your journey to Net Zero, the Net Zero Business Advisor Service encourage you to get in touch with them via the contact details below.

This support is financed by the UK government’s Shared Prosperity Fund.

More information about the **Net Zero Business Advisor** can be found at: carboncharter.org/suffolk-business-consultancy.

Organisations can call 01473 350370 or email netzerosuffolk@groundwork.org.uk to speak to a Net Zero consultant.



See next page for current Groundwork projects for communities and householders



Climate and Energy Champion training sessions

The Climate and Energy Champions training that Groundwork East offer will provide you with the skills and knowledge to champion positive change within your community. The training will cover topics about climate change and reducing personal carbon footprints, energy efficiency, how to carry out a DIY home energy audit and the funding available to make changes for the better. The training also serves as a great way to network and share information on how other communities are actioning Net Zero and Home Energy support.

“Thank you for putting on the fantastic Climate and Energy Champions course I attended. It was a great mix of easy to understand ideas and networking to give confidence to do something positive. It was a small session with people from different areas of work, experience and backgrounds but everyone passionate about the climate emergency and all keen to make a difference. I've made some great contacts and look forward to taking forward ideas in our community” – Julia

Training dates currently available:

- [Tuesday 6th Feb 10am-3pm \(online\)](#)
- [Tuesday 13th Feb 10am-3pm \(in person at Groundwork East offices IP6 0SA \)](#)
- [Tuesday 27th Feb 10am-3pm \(online\)](#)
- [Thursday 7th March 10am-3pm \(online\)](#)
- [Thursday 14th March 10am-3pm \(online\)](#)



Householder Energy Advice

Households in Suffolk can contact Groundwork East for free and impartial advice on how to improve the energy efficiency and reduce bills in their home. Whether you have plans to change areas of your home already or you have no plans at all, the Householder Energy Advice service can help guide you to your next steps. We can advise on all areas of your home from a new heating system to lower energy use appliances. You can contact us via phone, email or by filling out our online 'home energy audit'!

“With regards to how I found the service, it was very thorough and provided lots of useful information which was changed the way my household views energy and the running of our home. The information was very valuable and had given me a new found understanding as to the importance of the collective result of small actions, as well as the potential savings of larger projects!” – Caitlin

To access the survey online see [here](#) or call 01473 350370.

Becky Rolf, Sustainability Consultant, Groundwork East



SCCP Community Networking Events

Last year, the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership identified a need for more opportunities for people and groups involved in grass roots action to come together to share and celebrate their work and forge new connections.

Representatives of the Greenprint Forum were delighted to help develop and deliver two initial Community Networking Events alongside the SCCP, East Suffolk Council and other stakeholders, with Greenprint Chair Jane Healey and Volunteer Member of the Greenprint Steering Group Betsy Reid both serving on the panel at Saxmundham to showcase their own projects with [Transition Woodbridge](#) and [Greener Waldringfield](#) respectively, alongside other local movers and shakers including Dr Adrian Cooper of [Felixstowe's Community Nature Reserve](#), Rachel Kellett of [Halesworth Area Sustainable Hub](#), and Roy Venables of [Greener Sax](#).

Whilst we were already aware of the variety and extent of grass roots action going on in the east of the county, we certainly improved our understanding of the level of activity going on in the west of the county which these events helped to bring to light, with the panel at Bury St Edmunds comprising Libby Ranzetta of [EcoCarriers](#), Paul Hodgkin of [HEAT Hadleigh](#), Steph Holland of [West Suffolk HIVE CIC](#), Andrew MacPherson of [The Coddenham Centre](#), and Andrew Goodall of [Green Hinderclay](#).

Claire Ling, Community Advisor for the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership, said:

“Both events were a fantastic success enabling networking for over 150 individuals and groups around the county in the hope that connections would be made, and experiences shared. I not only thoroughly enjoyed both events which were similar but different, but met so many people with inspirational and motivational stories about the action they were involved in. There is so much happening around Suffolk, so bringing people together in one room created a wonderful buzz!

“Thank you to the many people who were involved in making the events the success and thank you to all who attended.”



Some dates for the diary

Saturday 3 February: **Wild About Wickham**, at the village hall 12:00-16:00. Members of the community are encouraged to come along and find out more about increasing biodiversity in their own gardens, and across the village. [Wickham Market residents encouraged to go wild » East Suffolk Council](#)

Sunday 4 February: **Litter-Free Felixstowe joint litter pick with Ipswich Town Foundation**, meet at the Pier at 11:00. There will be a scavenger hunt for the kids, alongside the litter pick. [Group litter-pick with Ipswich Town Foundation | Facebook](#)

Various dates in February and March: **Climate, Construction, Nature and Food Security**. A series of talks organised by the Deben Climate Centre to explore threats to these systems and the need to adapt. Full details of programme here: [CLIMATE, CONSTRUCTION, NATURE and FOOD SECURITY | Eventbrite](#)

Thursday 22 February: **Fresh Air & Friends Litter Pick** organised by Rubbish Walks, meet at 09:00 at Morrisons on Sproughton Road, Ipswich. [Fresh Air And Friends Litter Pick | Facebook](#)

Sunday 25 February: **Big Green Films** at the Cut, Halesworth, 10:00-16:00. [February 25th – BIG GREEN Film Day at the CUT – Halesworth ASH](#) Part of a series of events that Halesworth Area Sustainability Hub are holding throughout the year, once a month. [Halesworth ASH – Halesworth Area Sustainable Hub](#)

Wednesday 28 February: **Greenprint Forum on Food**, Saxmundham Market Hall, 18:00-21:00. A Forum on the relocalisation and sustainability of food systems. [Greenprint-Forum-on-Food-280224.pdf \(eastsuffolk.gov.uk\)](#)

Some current consultations

[Help shape North Felixstowe » East Suffolk Council](#) Residents of Felixstowe are invited to join a new panel which will enable the views and needs of local people to be considered in the development of a new garden neighbourhood in the north of the town. [Register your interest in joining the Citizens' Panel](#); forms are also available at Felixstowe Town Hall. Residents are also invited to attend the first engagement event at The Orwell Hotel on Saturday 3 February (10am to 3pm), with presentations from 11.30am.

[Consultation on reforming the producer responsibility system for waste electrical and electronic equipment 2023 - Defra - Citizen Space](#) "The purpose of this consultation is to seek views on reforms to the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Regulations 2013, which are intended to drive up levels of separately collected WEEE for re-use and recycling." Closes 7 March 2024.

[Rapid charging fund: scheme design - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) "The rapid charging fund (RCF) will enable a comprehensive ultra-rapid charging network by funding prohibitively expensive grid connections." Department for Transport are seeking views to help design the fund. Closes 14 February 2024.

[Home Energy Model: Future Homes Standard assessment - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) Department for Energy Security and Net Zero are "seeking views on the methodology to assess whether new dwellings demonstrate compliance with the Future Homes Standard." Closes 6 March 2024.

[Proposals for heat network zoning 2023 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) Department for Energy Security and Net Zero are "seeking views on proposals for heat network zoning in England, to attract investment and give local communities access to cheaper, greener heat sooner." Closes 26 February 2024.

[Approach to siting new nuclear power stations beyond 2025 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) Department for Energy Security and Net Zero are "seeking views on the proposed policy approach for siting new nuclear power stations for a new Nuclear National Policy Statement." Closes 10 March 2024.



Contributors

As ever thanks are due to all our stellar contributors to this issue: **Amy Rayner, Becky Rolf, Fiona Quinn, Paul Martin, Paula Saward, Peter Marett, Jane Hawthorne** and **Steve Piotrowski**.

Of course, whilst there is as always plenty in this issue, there will be lots more that I have not captured; the environmental world is always an active one especially in eastern Suffolk where we are so lucky to have so many active groups and individuals taking the initiative.

This newsletter is of most value when content is informed by its members. If you have a story about action you are taking that contributes to our shared vision that you would like to share, or would like your project highlighted in our newsletter, please drop me a line on greenissues@east Suffolk.gov.uk

GREENPRINT FORUM VISION



New members welcome!

If you are already a member please share this newsletter with and encourage others in your network to join, and if you have received or found this newsletter and are not yet a member why not join us, **membership is free and open to all.**

The easiest way is to go online and register via: [Greenprint Forum membership form - My East Suffolk](#).

You are very welcome to share this newsletter. The editor makes no claims or promises about the accuracy, completeness, or adequacy of the contents of this newsletter and expressly disclaims liability for errors and/or omissions. Editor – Daniel Wareing, Environmental Sustainability East Suffolk Council; Secretary of Greenprint Forum

