



November 2024

Welcome to my monthly newsletter

End of year update

On the whole there has been very little new initiatives at East Suffolk, but I am pleased to see policies and projects continue from the last 4 years. As you know I continue to be disappointed in the lack of environmental engagement and I am disappointed to see my Pardon the weeds campaign and the annual district wide litter pick cancelled I will be working hard to push the council to reintroduce both initiatives in the new year.

I continue with case work from local residents often guiding to which institutions to contact and assisting where I can. And of course, I speak out in meetings and at full council to articulate our views. And I continue to try and influence decisions, so they best support our concerns.

I continue to engage with other local stakeholders, and I work with Cllr Reid and Suffolk County Council where appropriate especially in highways matters. With the change in our local member of parliament after a number of emails I am delighted finally a meeting will be scheduled and I will discuss the issues that clearly have an impact on the Peninsula

- Rural isolation
- Removal of the winter allowance
- Investment in our highways
- Water quality of the Deben
- And the bigger issues of how wealth distribution, housing issues and education



Proposed changes in waste collection

At Full council in Sept the Conservative group have been quick to highlight the faults in a hastily designed new collection format to meet national requirements for 2026. Much work had commenced in looking at how East Suffolk would change its waste collections and before the Green and Lib Dems took over the council, pilot schemes were in the pipeline and the whole council, cross party, were focusing on the best outcome for our residents. However, since the Greens and Lib Dems have taken power, there is little cross-party working and the administration is rubber stamping decisions that are clear to everyone have been made behind closed doors.

Nobody would argue that recycling is more important than ever with increasing climate change and improvements can be made in East Suffolk, but the current administration seems to forget the most important aspect of these changes are how easy they are for the busy household to following. Not only the proposals of even more bins, which will create confusion, but there will be greater congestion on pavements.

More bins will mean more plastic bins which are not only unsightly in many of our Victorian roads, are simply the wrong type of collection vessel. We all understand the need to move away from plastic, not use it more in our everyday lives. The proposed sorting at home is just not practical, where will all these bins be stored? And the proposals as they stand will be highly confusing to many of our residents especially the elderly and those with mobility issues. The key aspect in recycling is to reduce the contamination to a minimum. If bins are contaminated it becomes residue waste and is just burnt or worse still goes to land fill and that's just throwing away the hard work of household sorting and collecting material in the first place. Recycling to be effective needs to be simple. I will continue to push these issues and try to steer the council to make the right decisions.

Environment grants

When I was in charge of the environment portfolio at East Suffolk, I was really pleased to introduce a new local biodiversity grant. This has been resurrected and I am really pleased to see this return. East Suffolk has a very important part to play to encourage communities to engage with our local biodiversity. And as you come to landscape around the village this grant is important to help support you with your projects

<https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/environment/east-suffolk-greenprint-forum/supporting-community-environmental-action/nature-first-small-grants-scheme/>

Remembrance Sunday

After ringing Sunday bells, I attended the Hollesley remembrance service. Beautiful morning sun shining for the first time for a long time



Hollesley crash causing weeks of delay

A collision between a van and tractor resulted in the tractor being overturned. This in turn resulted in damage to the tarmac and the road was closed for over three weeks. This caused quite a problem in Hollesley with no access to this junction effectively closing the main road in the village. Works were taking too long so I spoke out to Suffolk County Council, working with Cllr Reid to minimize delays to the repair and to make sure standard of works were acceptable. Road markings have now been painted and I am working with Hollesley Parish council to investigate if road signage is adequate.

Hollesley road repaired three weeks after tractor crash

7th October

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By Katie Drake

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<https://www.eadt.co.uk/news/24633997.hollesley-road-repaired-three-weeks-tractor-crash/>

Finally

I wish you all a great Christmas and peaceful new year. Look forward to working with you in 2025

James Mallinder

Deben Ward

A voice for parishes and residents of the Peninsula