

Report for Nedging with Naughton PC County Councillor Robert Lindsay. 9.11.21

Lorry route consultation

You should have been sent by Suffolk County Council a link to an online survey about lorry impact in your village. They are undertaking a review of the current lorry routes to update it to take account of developments since it was last produced. Ipswich Road, B1078, is classed as a “local access route” on the current lorry route map. They say changes are unlikely to be huge and any suggestions for removing a route, need to have alternatives provided.

Full Council – local electricity supply motion passed

The Suffolk County Council met for a Full Council meeting on the 21st October 2021. Our group proposed a motion to support the Local Electricity Bill, to help lower the costs to local and community energy suppliers of getting a licence to sell energy to their local community. The motion was passed unanimously. The Bill makes the licences more affordable for local energy suppliers and hence is likely to lower prices for everyone. Details of the motion and Local Electricity Bill can be found here: <https://powerforpeople.org.uk/local-electricity-bill-briefing-for-councillors>

Decarbonising the county council’s buildings

The county council cabinet today (9th November) agreed to invest £12.8m over 9 years to 2030 to decarbonise the buildings the county council owns and operates, including libraries and fire stations. This will involve initially improving the efficiency of air conditioning and ventilation systems in the building and training staff how to use them to ultimately switching away from gas or oil fired boilers to heat pumps, or biomass boilers. The county is looking to include its own maintained schools at a later stage.

Suffolk Schools to Reintroduce Face Coverings

On Wednesday 20th October, the Directors of Public Health, and Children and Young People Services, released a statement notifying us that face coverings are to be reintroduced into schools from 1st November.

This is due to the rising COVID cases in Suffolk. Staff and students will have to wear face coverings in communal areas, outside of the classroom, unless exempt for medical reasons. Visitation will also be restricted to essential visits. A further review on its effectiveness will commence 15th November.

Our group’s Public Health Spokesperson encourages the Government to be proactive and apply the same measures for everyone, as we head toward winter. See Cllr Simon Harley’s comments on the decision at <https://suffolkgli.wordpress.com/2021/10/26/gli-public-health-spokespersons-warning-over-winter-response-to-reintroduction-of-covid-measures/>

Sizewell C: Government Announce Support & New Funding Strategy

On the 15th October, Suffolk County Council announced their support for Sizewell C, and are raising ‘important concerns’ with the Secretary of State. My political group remains firmly against the project, arguing the environmental and socio-economic impact on local communities is far too great.

In addition, Business and Energy Secretary, Kwasi Kwarteng, announced a new strategy for funding the nuclear power project at Sizewell. The “Regulated Asset Base” strategy means more of the costs and risks of the project will be shifted onto consumers’ electricity bills, including the costs of any construction overrun. Our Group is against this and has asked that the Government looks into investing in cleaner, cheaper, and more rapidly-built forms of renewable energy available to Suffolk.

[https://committeeminutes.suffolk.gov.uk/DocSetPage.aspx?MeetingTitle=\(12-10-2021\),%20The%20Cabinet](https://committeeminutes.suffolk.gov.uk/DocSetPage.aspx?MeetingTitle=(12-10-2021),%20The%20Cabinet)