

Report for Nedging parish council 10/1/21 by County Councillor Robert Lindsay

Nedging Road traffic calming

I have asked Highways about feasibility and price of 30mph roundel and a set of dragons teeth on Nedging Road to slow cars at the beginning of the 30mph limit and a roundel at the other end where it joins Ipswich Road. I will let you know when I have a response.

County budget

The first proposals for the county council's 2023/24 budget is to increase their council tax precept by 4%, below the 5% cap they are allowed. There are growing pressures from inflation, social care and childrens' services.

40mph signs on Union Hill Semer

These were apparently put up without permission and Highways have removed them.

Bus motion

At the last full county council (1st December) I proposed a motion to try to get a proper strategy in place for investing in buses in the county, the county having failed to win a penny in its latest bid for "Bus Back Better" money. The motion also asked for proper promotion with community bus operators of these services. A key part of the motion was to refer the county's failed Bus Improvement Plan to scrutiny committee to see how it could be improved for next time. Sadly it was voted down by the Conservative administration, though supported by all the opposition parties.

Special Educational Need services – Update

Last year, Suffolk CC's SEND services were criticised in a damning report conducted by Lincolnshire Council which contained 32 recommendations. This month our political group on the county was told that 22 of the 32 recommendations have been actioned, and the remaining 10 will be completed by the end of 2022.

The delivery of 1,317 new specialist school places by 2026 has been agreed and 826 of these places are now open. The number of Education Health Care Plans (EHP) has increased to 6,847 in September 2022, from 5,849 in September 2020.

Suffolk looks for more hosts for Ukrainian refugees

New hosts coming forward to help accommodate guests that are already in Suffolk can sign up via the Suffolk County Council website, by [completing our online form](#) or emailing refugeesupport@suffolk.gov.uk.

Accommodation must be available to guests for a minimum of 6 months. Hosts will be eligible to receive the £350 thank you payment for up to 6 months or more, depending on the date your guests arrived in the UK (12 months starting from the

date your guests first arrived in the UK). If you know anyone that might be interested, please encourage them to visit [Ukraine: Could you help a family in need? | Suffolk County Council](#)

Suffolk to have a “Directly Elected Leader”

Suffolk County Council’s leader has agreed to a deal with central Government that will create the post of directly elected leader of the county council. This person will be able to appoint their own cabinet from existing county councillors. This does not affect the district councils, it is essentially a reshuffle of county council governance. The county is being handed about £16m extra a year for next 30 years but a lot of this is ringfenced for particular items and is less than has been cut from grants over the years. It is hard to find a single firm promise of extra powers in the deal.