

Report for Nedging with Naughton PC from county councillor Robert Lindsay 10.11.20

Motion for 20mph default limit in residential areas voted down

This motion that I proposed fell by 48 votes to 20 at full council on October 22nd as councillors voted along party lines. However it gained support from the Labour group and from many in press and public so I hope it has started a debate.

This year's Suffolk Covid spending gap plugged by Government

Suffolk County Council quarterly budget predictions show that the headline figures are that the budget for 2020-21 council is currently looking more or less on track with a net overspend of just £0.4m. A hole of £41m due to extra spending and lost revenue from Covid was plugged by £39.1 ringfenced Covid grants from Government and £1.7m additional spending from business rates.

County Council AGM

October saw the Annual General Meeting of the County Council, which I attended. The AGM should have taken place in May, but was delayed due to COVID-19. Cllr Graham Newman was elected Chairman of the County Council until the next AGM in May 2021. Cllr Louis Busuttil was elected Vice Chairman.

Foodbank

It is estimated that the number of people claiming Universal Credit in Suffolk has increased by 75% since March and there has been a 238% increase in the amount of food handed out to single adults and families, from Suffolk's foodbanks. There are also 104,000 people still furloughed from their jobs.

Bildeston's food bank is now supporting 12 families in and around the village. It is taking donations of both non-perishable food and fresh fruit and vegetables. The best place to leave donations of food is outside 9-11 Duke Street. Contact Shaun 01449 257136.

Home But Not Alone phonenumber reactivated

The service was paused in August because of low call demand and the lifting of Covid-19 restrictions. However, in light of the new national lockdown, the service is now up and running again. The aim is to put people in touch with local voluntary help.

The telephone number is freephone **0800 876 6926** and will be staffed from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday. The Suffolk Advice and Support Service phonenumber (0800 068 3131) which helps those with debt, benefits employment or housing worries, is still running.