

Report for Nedging Parish Council by Robert Lindsay, Suffolk County Councillor for 15.11.23

Bid now to get new bus services

The county council have some new money from central Government they have to use for new or extra bus services within a short time frame. Unusually they are asking communities (parish councils) to bid in conjunction with operators.

There are several potential bids I have been encouraging operators and parishes to look at in my Cosford division.

The one that must effects Nedging is the 111 Hitcham to Ipswich via Nedging. Currently three services a day to Ipswich and four back. Frequency would be doubled with an extra bus and it may be possible to persuade Mulleys to start this from Stowmarket rather than Hitcham. As yet I and Hitcham Parish Council have had no response from Mulleys about this idea. It is important to evidence demand, so if you know of people locally that might use the service that don't currently do let me know.

The others I'm looking at are:

The 379 Hadleigh to Bury bus Hitcham (once a week on Weds). I have asked operators GoAhead (Hedenhams) if it can be expanded to a daily service with changed timings to meet 9 to 5 working day and West Suffolk college start and finish times.. GoAhead interested but awaiting meeting date.

The 461 Hadleigh to Stowmarket. We could bid with operator HCT to expand this from twice a week to five days a week with timings to meet the West Suffolk college Kura bus service from Stowmarket. West Suffolk College are v interested and are gathering data for potential pupil demand for me for this or the 379 route.

112 Bildeston to Sudbury – Bildeston and Brent Eleigh PCs are liaising with GoStart to see if a fortnightly route could be run from Sudbury to Bury and back, via Bildeston.

If you feel there is pent up demand for any other new service or improvements to existing such as the 462 Hadleigh to Stow via Nedging, do let me know.

Deadline for bids is 20th December. Details and online form here <https://www.suffolkonboard.com/news/bus-service-improvement-plan-where-should-the-money-be-spent/>

Foodbank and community support

Bildeston food bank is now supporting 39 families from several different villages including Monks Eleigh, Nedging and Hitcham. Together with your district councillor Deborah we are exploring ways to help roll out the Bildeston model out across the district, because it is clear that existing food banks and CAB are only reaching about 30% of those in need.

Footpath between Nedging and Chelsworth

After I spoke in favour of putting this footpath from Nedging Mill to Parsonage Lane, Chelsworth on the Definitive Map as a public footpath, the committee vote unanimously to do so, despite the officer recommending refusal. The council made an order to put it on the Definitive Map in early October. Should there be no

appeal, then it will be entitled to be signposted with public footpath signs which should increase the numbers using it.

Lower speed limits A1141 Hadleigh to Semer

My last report mentioned my application to reduce speed limit on this road between Stone Street and Letts swimming pool from 60mph to 40mph. This has now been approved, though funding must be found by Semer parish council and it may be some time before it will actually be installed.

Bildeston 20mph

I am told new highways contractors Milestone are aiming to restart work on installing 20mph signs etc next month (December).