

## Report to Bungay and Wainford Parishes June 2023

During the last few weeks, Matthew Hicks, Leader of SCC has held one to ones with all members of our Group, this has meant a few minor changes in committee membership and in my case I am now a member of the Fire Service Steering Group, which will broaden my knowledge of the fire service and dovetails neatly with my chairmanship of the Fire service pensions committee. I will be spending the morning of Suffolk Day next Wednesday at Woodbridge Fire station .

SCC has been given £1m by the Government to upgrade signage in the County and I am part of the Working Party liaising with Highways engineers on where this will be spent . The starting point may be the A140 from Beacon Hill to Scole and other stretches of road will be considered in due course Matthew has also announced a £10 addition to Suffolk's roads' budget to improve minor roads - and I was straight in there with a request for Upper Olland St to be re surfaced .

I have spent many months with our local Highways engineer Wayne Saunders discussing traffic flows in town and how they can be improved. With the Assets team , he drew up a possible scheme which has been presented to the Planning and Highways committee and I look forward to further discussions on this in due course.

I don't think I have told you Suffolk County Council has announced a one-off £2,000 Independent Living Payment for Ukrainian Refugees who are moving into private rented accommodation after 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023, but you may have picked up on this elsewhere. I have no idea of the take up but am happy to enquire.

Suffolk County Council has underlined its commitment to library services in Suffolk, as it approved plans to increase its funding to Suffolk Libraries, to enable the service to continue operating at its current level, until the end of the contract in July 2024. Wheels have been set in motion to review the Library contract, but there will be no reduction in service.

Scc has received a £7.9m package from Government to promote active travel schemes. Public engagement schemes will be launched throughout 2023 , work should start in 2024

This week I received an email from Essex & Suffolk Water , I had no idea the size of their investment at Barsham Water Treatment works , which is £49.3m, it is well worth a look on their website

<https://www.nwg.co.uk/news-and-media/news-releases/work-starts-on-49.3m-water-supply-project/>

Like many of you I will be sorry to lose Sam as our Communities' Officer , he has been very proactive for this Ward, but I am sure his replacement will be equally competent

Judy Cloke

County Councillor for the Bungay Division 14/6/23