

## **TOP-TEN REPORT FOR BUNGAY AND THE VILLAGES (JUNE 2023)**

**East Suffolk Councillors Toby Hammond and Anthony Specca**

1. We wrote to the Suffolk County Cabinet Member for Transport, as well as our local Suffolk County Councillor, to urge them to implement a pilot scheme to exclude lorries from Bungay, along the lines of an exclusion scheme recently approved for Eye, and in keeping with the Bungay Neighbourhood Development Plan. This discussion continues.
2. We supported three Community Infrastructure Levy grant applications – over £1.2m for Norfolk and Waveney Integrated Care Board to expand the Bungay Medical Centre to meet increased demand; almost £0.5m for the Bungay and District Sports Association to construct a modern 3G sports pitch at Maltings Meadow; and over £30k for Suffolk County Council to extend Bungay Library to better accommodate community activities.
3. We agreed to use some of our Enabling Communities funding to help Rumburgh Parish Council install memorial benches, and the Fisher Theatre in Bungay to upgrade their alarm system as per insurance requirements. Enabling Communities funds are limited, but we invite all town and parish councils to approach us with suitable small projects.
4. We congratulate the communities of Shadingfield, Sotterley, Willingham and Ellough on their Neighbourhood Development Plan, which East Suffolk Council unanimously approved this month. This plan is the result of a tremendous amount of work, and it's an achievement to be celebrated.
5. We discussed with Bungay Town Council their plans to monitor and deter speeding in town. Speeding is a problem in all our communities, and we believe there may be an opportunity to share best practice and technical experience.
6. We worked closely with officers of East Suffolk Council to resolve concerns around the closure of Mill Stream Bridge in Bungay as fairly and expeditiously as possible, and we have helped mediate between some of the parties involved.
7. We had a great meeting with community campaigners opposed to the Shipmeadow Solar Farm – listening to their concerns, explain how the planning process would proceed in the event of a development application, and discussing how the people of Shipmeadow, Ilketshall St Andrew and Ilketshall St John can be heard in that process.
8. We attended this month's town or parish council meetings at Barsham and Shipmeadow; Bungay; Ringsfield and Weston; Rumburgh; and Shadingfield, Sotterly, Willingham and Ellough. We look forward to future meetings, and we ask that you or your clerks please share with us schedules of your upcoming meetings if you haven't done so already.
9. Anthony continues to attend major civic events as Chair of Council, including the launch of the Community Support Hub in Bungay, an award ceremony honouring the Long Shop Museum in Leiston, the First Light Festival in Lowestoft, the Mayor's Service in Felixstowe, the Suffolk Armed Forces Day in Woodbridge, and the Suffolk Pride Parade in Ipswich.
10. Toby is working with East Suffolk Council officers to launch a review of parking charges across the district. Parking income brings in around £4.5m annually to support the Council's vital activities, and pricing tariffs can also be adjusted to support high street trade, and to encourage walking and cycling (where possible).