



# December 2018 Thedwastre North

## **Council meeting 6<sup>th</sup> December 2018**

The agenda for this meeting includes 4 motions for debate. These include a debate on the role of local government in stamping out modern slavery – a debate that has occurred at a number of other councils, including most of those in Suffolk. The next motion is about single use plastics and includes the proposal to audit the use in Suffolk. The third motion is about backing a campaign called ‘The Smallest Things’ – about supporting premature babies and their families, including extending maternity or paternity leave. The fourth motion for debate is a proposal for an annual carbon budget, setting out a target for carbon emission reductions alongside the financial budgets, the first to be introduced in the 2019/20 budget.

There are two reports to be presented to the council – the Annual Public Health Report 2018 and the Annual Property Report and Strategic Asset Management Plan.

These are followed by questions to the Cabinet Members.

## **Suffolk County Council’s budget setting for 2019/2020**

On 14 November, Suffolk County Council published key papers which mark the beginning of a three-month process to agree Suffolk County Council’s budget for 2019/20.

The papers detail how Suffolk County Council proposes to increase its overall budget by nearly £15 million (3%) to £514.8 million in 2019/20, with specific increases in the council’s children and young people and adult care budgets which support Suffolk’s most vulnerable people. This includes accounting for an expected significant increase in the cost of providing services and inflation.

The papers summarise an initial list of potential savings totalling £11.2 million, which are required to help balance the overall budget. These include proposals to maximise income, as well as cost, grant, service and staffing reductions.

To balance its budget for the next financial year, the council needs to save around £25m.

## **Suffolk wins praise at the national Community Energy Awards 2018**

On 5 November, it was announced that the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership has received a national award for supporting local communities to be more energy efficient.

The Suffolk Climate Change Partnership is a collaboration of Suffolk County Council, all Suffolk’s borough and district councils and The Environment Agency. It supports the county’s communities, businesses and residents to reduce carbon emissions, realise the economic

benefits of reducing energy consumption and adapt to the future impacts of climate change. Its work has brought in significant amounts of external funding to Suffolk, running highly-successful projects for its customers.

### The Hold construction is underway

Construction of The Hold building is well underway, with groundworks, piling, and foundations all part of this phase of construction. The Hold will deliver a new home for the majority of Suffolk’s unique archival collections, as well as state-of-the-art public facilities including seminar rooms and a 200-seat auditorium. Collections will be centralised in Ipswich but will be able to be accessed digitally from other buildings.

The new building, which will be situated near the junction of Fore Street and Grimwade Street in Ipswich, will be part of the University of Suffolk campus and will be run by the county and the university together.

Work began on the construction of The Hold building in August, with the demolition of a derelict building at the northern end of the site. The construction will focus on the strongrooms first, where the archives will be kept. The building will formally open to the public in Spring 2020. Once finished, more than 100 direct and indirect full-time jobs will be created as well as training and apprenticeships.

### Have you spotted the new Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service vehicle on the road?



Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service has a new-look vehicle taking to the roads of Suffolk.

The fire appliance used to train its drivers has been wrapped in new graphics, showing the fire service’s commitment to being open and accessible to everyone. It is keen to share the message that there are career opportunities in the Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service for all.

It does not matter what your background is or where you live, you can pursue a career with the service. Anyone interested could join other Woolpit residents who are already on call firefighters with the Elmswell crew.

Being a member of the team does not only involve being called to put out fires, firefighters attend many other emergencies such as dealing with chemical spillages, rescuing animals or supporting emergency service colleagues at road traffic collisions.

Vacancies with Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service are published on [www.suffolkjobsdirect.org](http://www.suffolkjobsdirect.org). On call firefighters are constantly being recruited and recruitment for full time firefighters is expected to take place again in 2019. For more information, search for Suffolk Fire and Rescue on [www.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk).

### **A useful link to share with residents and community groups**

'Can Do Health and Care' is about local health and care services working in a more joined up way. Health, care, voluntary and community organisations in Suffolk and North East Essex are working together with a shared vision and plans to improve the health and care outcomes for the one million people living locally.

Their newsletter keeps local residents and community groups up to date with some of their key projects and news and can be accessed at <http://www.candohealthandcare.co.uk/news/edition-3/>. Some highlights from their latest newsletter are the launch of a suicide prevention app in Suffolk, a new group to support people in East and Central Suffolk who are caring for loved ones with mental health conditions and a community café that has opened in Rougham as part of a village initiative designed to combat loneliness and isolation.

### **Locality Funding**

I have locality funding from Suffolk County Council. There are two different types of locality funding that can be applied for – Locality Funding and Highways Locality Budget. There are still funds available so if there are projects that are in need of funds then please call me or email me to discuss a possible locality grant. The differences are that the Locality Funding is used for community projects (youth shelters, dog bins etc) and the Highways Locality budget is used for highways projects (like the one-way system in Mill Lane, Woolpit and Speed Indicator Display (SID) signs).

Jane Storey

December 2018