

Parish Report – November 2022

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Division: Thedwastre North

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For information on local support during the Cost-of-Living Crisis, visit:

www.suffolk.gov.uk/CostOfLiving

Latest SCC COVID information is available here: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/>

For information on supporting Ukrainian refugees in Suffolk, email:

refugeesupport@suffolk.gov.uk or ukrainesupport@communityactionsuffolk.org.uk

Cost of Living Budget Survey – SCC Open up for your thoughts

The County Council has released a survey to local residents, asking for their thoughts on the upcoming 2023/24 budget. A summary of responses will be considered when deciding how to spend your money. With inflationary pressures, our Group expects government to seek spending cuts – meaning public services could be cut and council reserves may have to be used.

Despite the difficult situation, can I recommend you complete the survey and share your thoughts on how the Council should spend their money, as well as highlight vulnerabilities you see in your communities that need further addressing.

For a link to the online survey, click here: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/7BQY0J/>

Cost-of-Living Leaflet: Updated to Show Support

Over 85,000 leaflets, highlighting information and guidance during the crisis, were distributed amongst Suffolk communities. The leaflet shows all the help Suffolk offers with finances and household expenses, as well as how to stay warm this winter. Our Group strongly suggest anyone vulnerable to take a look at how Suffolk can help.

For a link to the leaflet, click here: <https://suffolk.pagetiger.com/cost-of-living-support/scc1>

SCC's Launch of 'Winter Matters' Campaign

SCC have launched their Winter Matters campaign, which aims to help ease the pressures of winter for Suffolk residents. This is a signposting campaign that centres around five key themes: Finances, Safety, Environment, Health and Wellbeing, and Highways.

For more information and advice on how SCC can support you during winter, visit: www.suffolk.gov.uk/wintermatters

Full Council – 20th October – GLI Motion

We submitted a motion calling for Suffolk County Council to reject the idea of an “Anti-Growth Coalition”. The term, coined by former PM Liz Truss, suggests anyone who criticised the government’s economic policy was part of a coordinated group against growing our economy. Of course, since then things have quickly moved on and we now have a new Prime Minister with new priorities.

Our Group wanted to debate the issues – including the view that growth should consider social responsibilities, community voices, sound financial policy, and environmental limits, something we believed this government was not adhering to. A useful debate was had.

SCC Cabinet Meeting – 11th October

The Cabinet met for the first time since the summer political recess. The Cabinet agreed to spend £2m on new care provision for Children and Young People in Felixstowe. In addition, SEND services received £10m to provide more specialist units in Suffolk. The opposition supported this spending, as we want to remove the pattern of families travelling cross-county to access educational support.

The Suffolk Local Access Forum submitted their annual report, which included their concerns about Sizewell C and its effect on green networks and Rights of Way. We continue to voice concerns over the effects of nuclear power on our coastal landscape and biodiversity.

In addition, the Cabinet endorsed Transport East’s new 2050 strategy, which focusses more on green travel and linking rural communities to local economies. Our Group recognises the importance of connecting isolated residents for both profession and pleasure, and we will ensure SCC adopts all priorities into its own policy. This includes local bus provision which is a really difficult issue for residents affected by recent timetable reductions.

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Website - [Suffolk Green, Liberal Democrat and Independent Group – The GLI Group at Suffolk County Council \(suffolkgli.wordpress.com\)](#)