



May 2024

Welcome to my monthly newsletter

**STOP PRESS : CLLR MALLINDER SUMMER SURGERY 22 JUNE 1030 -
1130 BUTLEY VILLAGE HALL**



So sorry to hear of the passing of Liz, always a supporter and a great community member. She will be missed.

SUPPORT FOR MEET UP MONDAY EASTER LUNCH

I was pleased to commit funds from my enabling community budget to support Hollesley's Meet up Monday Easter Lunch

Although largely attended by Hollesley residents the event was open to others across the Peninsula

The event was a great success with fish and chips for 30 along with a raffle where everyone was a winner (my type of raffle)

Loneliness and isolation are a real problem in rural communities, so I am only too happy to support such events





PLANNING ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURE

Recently a parish council asked for an update on planning enforcement issues to be greeted with a reply asking the parish council to request information through freedom of information request. This is a ridiculous situation, so I have spoken to senior planning managers that such a response is not helpful or constructive.

Prior to leaving the cabinet we started work on looking at how the council implements and reports enforcement. Here on the Deben this is one of the biggest concerns and right now the process of report and transparency needs to improve - I will continue to push hard for better systems.

New planning guidance for rural development

East Suffolk Council has a new Rural Development Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).

The Supplementary Planning Document supports the implementation of policies relating to rural development in the East Suffolk Council - Suffolk Coastal Local Plan and East Suffolk Council - Waveney Local Plan policies.

The SPD provides guidance on a range of topics, including rural worker dwellings, rural annexes, rural residential curtilage expansion, rural buildings and barn conversions, economic development, equestrian development, tourism accommodation, small scale renewable energy generation, and wastewater management in rural areas.

The Rural Development guide can be found : <https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy-and-local-plans/supplementary-planning-documents>

East Suffolk Blooms community wildflower growing scheme returns.

Delighted to see my campaign return for another year.

Each year, East Suffolk Council distributes free packs of bulbs to town and parish councils, community groups and organisations to plant locally as part of the East Suffolk Blooms campaign.

The project will continue with East Suffolk Council offering blends of native bulbs that appeal particularly to bees and butterflies.

A 'Bees Mix' of bulbs flowers from February to May and includes crocuses, chionodoxas, scillas, muscaris and naturalising tulips, while the 'Butterfly Mix' flowers between May and July and comprises camassias, nectaroscordums, irises and alliums.

Application form can be found: https://my.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/service/east_suffolk_blooms

Deadline 30 June



PRESS RELEASE ISSUED THIS WEEK:

GREEN PARTY CANCEL ENVIRONMENT POLICIES, AT A TIME WHEN RESIDENTS AND LOCAL COUNCILLORS DEMAND BETTER ENGAGEMENT

East Suffolk conservatives are increasingly worried that the current administration is abandoning the council's environmental focus.

The Green, Lib Dem and Independent (GLI) administration have been in power for over a year and it has now apparent that many successful environment policies introduced by the previous conservative administration have been cancelled. Not only this but there is a lack of a clear vision over the last year and the environmental focus of the council has been lost. This is the opposite of what we need right now. Climate change is upon us, and we need action NOW. Cllr Mallinder as previous cabinet member for the environment changed the direction of the council so it took into account environment impact and where possible also took the environmental sound solution. The new administration has clearly illustrated however they might be able to talk about the issues, but they have no understanding how to delivery on policy and care for the environment.

Cllr Mallinder is asking for all concerned residents to contact their district councillor to demand a return to the council focusing on supporting and caring for the environment. During the previous administration the council placed the environment at the heart of everything it did, making sure policy took into account environmental impact along with introducing many new initiatives from reducing the use of diesel in its fleet of trucks and cars to implementing a new sustainable management of its open spaces. The conservative administration gifted an oak tree to every parish, introduced electric vehicles and introduced a robust clear air quality guidance along with introducing of curb side recycling bins and a small grants award to support local communities. Even at offices in Melton the area was landscaped with a wildflower boarder to the main door, insect hotels, a pond and wild planting to support our biodiversity.

The only initiative that the green party introduced over the last year is a motion to highlight biodiversity importance, but this has not been followed by any tangible action. Talk is easy and with numbers of our species under threat we need to return to a strong nature driven district council.

This year saw the cancellation of the successful district wide spring litter pick, which has angered many residents who found this yearly focus made a significant difference to their local areas not only removing litter but reminding residents and visitors alike how important it is not to drop litter.



And much to the frustration of Cllr Mallinder, who introduced the hugely popular Pardon the Weeds we are feeding the Bees campaign, this has also been abandoned. This in particular has caused much sadness with East Suffolk Conservatives as this policy had grown each year and had real momentum. Over 100 sites were identified, and more were being added. Our logo could be seen to communicate to our residents why we're leaving the grass to grow and the yearly campaign inspired others to follow the same change in land management.

Cllr Mallinder states 'I worked hard through my four years as cabinet member of the environment changing the function and direction of the council to make sure it is environmentally led and introduced a number of new initiatives. Cancelling pardon the weeds we are feeding the bees campaign has caused me great sadness as this was such a wonderful project really supporting our biodiversity. This project along with cancelling the annual litter pick makes no sense. The green party just talk about the issues but are then not following up with any projects and why cancel the successful policies I introduced? ' 'Never did I think any incoming political party would abandon and cancel the environmental policies I had introduced, and I naively expected my policies to be developed and adapted as our understanding of climate change also developed. The Green party in particular are failing the residents of East Suffolk by not continuing my policies or at least using them as a foundation to introduce further projects. '

Rather than doing more for the environment we are doing less and are now going backwards as a council '

Here in Suffolk, it is clear we are seeing the manifestation of climate change across our landscape, not only is river heath a big local issue, but there is clear evidence many of our species are in decline. A healthy environment is absolutely the foundation in which we build healthy and strong local communities, we need to focus hard to make sure we build the right conditions so our wonderful residents, both human and wildlife, can thrive and prosper for now and future generations. East Suffolk conservative understand this sentiment and will lobby and push the GLI group to focus on the environment in the next political year.

Cllr Mallinder stated 'the focus of the council is a once in a lifetime opportunity to do our bit in dealing with climate concerns, and we will continue to push hard to make sure we return the council to prioritizing the environment. Doing nothing as we have seen in the last year is not an option '

End

MISC

- Spoke to cabinet member for housing over a local eviction issue- making sure East Suffolk supports my residents through our powers.
- Contacted leader of East Suffolk requesting a meeting to discuss lack of environmental progress and to understand why there has been no new policies over the last 12 months.
- Spoke to Cllr Wilson over transport issues on the Peninsula.
- Spoke to manager of planning to press for better planning enforcement procedure.
- Updated cabinet member for housing on issues with flagship houses - maintenance / state of gardens / selling off and no new stock.
- Popped into the Bawdsey market at the weekend to say hi to everyone and picked up some seedlings.



James Mallinder

Deben Ward

A voice for parishes and residents of the Peninsula