

District Councillors Report to Tuddenham St Martin Parish Council



September 2020

Cllr Colin Hedgley

Cllr Tony Fryatt

Simplified parking tariffs to be rolled out

Following a delay caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, East Suffolk Council will now begin rolling out new parking tariffs across the district - including a simplified pricing structure and free half hour parking across a number of sites.

Reducing over 50 different price points to just three or four main ticket types across the district, the new price structure will see prices reduced or frozen in over 70% of cases. Additionally, the council has introduced 30 minutes free parking in a number of car parks to support people who have told us that they make regular short visits. This will also support local businesses who will benefit from drivers making quick turnarounds in our car parks.

East Suffolk Council will introduce the new tariffs in a staggered roll out, with signs erected to indicate the new charges, starting in Bungay on Monday 24 August. The roll out will then continue through the district across the next few weeks.

Cllr Norman Brooks, East Suffolk's cabinet member for Transport, said: "Our new tariffs have been led by the data we have received from historical parking information and we are determined to make the process as simple and reasonable as possible. We know that the range of different charges has been inconsistent, and we also know that the tariffs to date have not necessarily suited the vast majority of people who park in our towns.

"The prices for longer stays remain competitive and our data tells us that around 75% of all users will pay just £1 or £1.50 for a two-hour stay. These changes are not about making money – in fact, we will not be making a penny of additional revenue from them, with more than 70% of tariff levels reduced or stay the same for a two-hour visit. This is about continuing to invest in improving the parking experience in East Suffolk, making it easier for everyone."

East Suffolk Council is also continuing to make the best use of technology to improve services by making them more efficient, and has seen an increase of 129% on contactless payments in its car parks as visitors take advantage of the simple RingGo app to park with ease and confidence.

Available in all East Suffolk's car parks, RingGo is a quick and easy to use mobile phone

service which lets people pay for their parking with a credit or debit card, via an app, rather than using cash at the machine. This means that drivers no longer need to queue at the machine or handle cash to pay for their parking.

Whilst there used to be a convenience fee of 20p to use the app, East Suffolk Council covers this cost, so drivers do not get charged extra for using this payment option. There is however a small extra charge if drivers choose to opt in to receive SMS reminders, of when your time is running out.

To register with RingGo and go contactless, go to <https://ringgo.co.uk/>.

Parking management moved from the police to East Suffolk Council in April 2020, to improve parking locally and tackle nuisance and unlawful parking, enabling the Council to address the parking problems that are affecting communities the most.

Cllr Brooks continues: “Our role is to support local communities and manage parking demand by enforcing existing regulations and ensuring there are parking opportunities for residents and visitors alike. Key to this is tackling inconsiderate and illegal parking which can impact on businesses as well as pose a danger to other road users and pedestrians.”

Alongside this, the Council also reviewed how it administered on-street parking permits, exemptions and dispensations. As a result of this, a new digital system has been put in place, enabling residents and others to apply for and manage permits online. The system also recognises valid permits from a vehicle’s registration number, meaning that permit holders will no longer need to remember to display their permits.

For more details, go to <https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/visitors/parking-services/parking-places>

and www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/visitors/parking-services/permits-exemptions-and-dispensations/.

Extraordinary Full Council Meeting

An extraordinary meeting of the full council will take place on the 3rd September and will be live streamed on the ESC YouTube channel. The debate will be regarding the “DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER FOR EDF ENERGY / SZC CO. SIZWELL C NEW NUCLEAR POWER STATION – RESPONSE OF EAST SUFFOLK COUNCIL – DRAFT RELEVANT REPRESENTATION”

The Council’s recommendations are:-

1. That Council endorses and supports the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Economic Development in conjunction with the Head of Planning and Coastal Management, in seeking delegated authority from Cabinet at its meeting on the 21 September 2020 in order to:
 - I. Be able to respond promptly to requests for information and documents during the Development Consent Order process for the Sizewell C proposal including representing the Council/authorising technical officers to represent the Council at Hearings; and
 - II. Be authorised to deal with post consent discharging of requirements and monitoring and mitigation (Section 106).
2. That Council recommends that the draft Relevant Representation be; i) endorsed as a work in progress ii) considered by the Deputy Leader Cabinet Member for Economic Development and the Head of Planning and Coastal Management, along with any updates/revisions to the said document, as detailed in the discussions at the meeting, iii) reported for consideration by Cabinet on the 21 September 2020, along with the updates/revisions and discussions at the meeting, when it agrees the formal Relevant Representation submission.

It is important to remember that the decision to build or not is with the Government, not ESC. But if it is built then we must be ready to take advantage of opportunities and also to press for mitigation for anything that affects us detrimentally.

Remember to bin it this Bank Holiday

Residents and visitors spending time at East Suffolk's beaches, open spaces and countryside are being urged to dispose of their rubbish responsibly this Bank Holiday weekend.

With the Bank Holiday approaching, East Suffolk Council is encouraging people to use the bins provided at beaches, parks and other popular open spaces in the district. There has been an unfortunate increase in littering in recent months and to tackle this problem, East Suffolk Norse have installed additional waste bins in popular areas and are emptying all litter bins more frequently.

However, people are reminded that their rubbish is their responsibility and are asked to help keep East Suffolk beautiful, by disposing of their rubbish either in the nearest litter bin or if there is not a bin, or the bin is already full, by taking it home. People are also asked not to leave rubbish beside bins which although well meaning, is still a form of littering.

Cllr James Mallinder, East Suffolk Council's cabinet member for the Environment said: "There is no excuse for littering; it is unnecessary, unpleasant and frankly unsightly. Like many parts of the country, East Suffolk has seen an increase in littering recently and we are doing all we can, such as installing additional bins and emptying them more frequently, to tackle the issue. However, we need residents and visitors to play their part too.

"As well as being unsightly, litter is harmful to wildlife and the environment. It is also important to remember that litter does not stay where it is dropped; it can easily get into our seas and watercourses, endangering marine life and ultimately ending up in the food chain.

"Small actions make a big difference and if everyone takes responsibility for their own rubbish when out and about, we can all work together to help keep East Suffolk safe and beautiful."

As well as installing additional bins across the district, East Suffolk Council has worked with Aldeburgh Town Council to review the litter bins provided in Aldeburgh. To deter pests and gulls from removing waste from bins, and to prevent rubbish being blown out, any open top or 'flip top' style bins have been replaced with larger bins. The Council is also piloting bins for recycling, with compartments for both general waste and recyclables which encourage people to make the right choice in disposing of their rubbish.

Residents are also encouraged to get involved in both the Marine Conservation Society's Great British Beach Clean, which runs from 18 to 25 September and Keep Britain Tidy's Great British September Clean, which runs from 11 to 27 September.

More details about how to organise a small, socially distanced beach clean or private litter pick can be found at www.mcsuk.org and www.keepbritaintidy.org

Due to coronavirus restrictions, East Suffolk Norse are currently unable to loan litter picking equipment however bags can be provided, and bagged litter can be collected from a pre-agreed collection point. For more details, please contact 0345 040 2020.

Work on a new café/restaurant in the heart of Felixstowe's South Seafront has now started. – bringing a new exciting resort experience to the area.

Work on new seafront eatery has started.

Work on a new café/restaurant in the heart of Felixstowe's South Seafront has now started. – bringing a new exciting resort experience to the area. Local building company, Barnes Construction, started work on the new landmark building on Monday 24 August, with the development estimated to be completed in summer 2021.

The Dedham Boathouse Group will be taking on the on running of the new eatery once it is ready to open, offering indoor and outdoor dining with unspoilt views of the sea.

Cllr Craig Rivett, East Suffolk's Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Economic Development, said: "Felixstowe is getting national recognition as one of the top seaside destinations in the country and as we hopefully begin to emerge from the coronavirus impact, providing much needed new facilities will be important. "This is a very exciting time for Barnes Construction and the Dedham Boathouse Group to come in and play an active part in the resurgence of Felixstowe.

"The striking design of the building is based around strong coastal themes and sympathetically balances its sensitive location, while also being an iconic visual draw to the area. Not only will it provide a new resort experience, attracting both local people and visitors, it will also support economic growth and provide new employment opportunities.

"The South Seafront has undergone significant redevelopment in recent years and East Suffolk Council has invested a lot in revitalising the area. We believe it is vital that we continue to build on this investment and create developments that benefits local businesses and people as well as visitors to the area."

The development is part of a bigger project of ongoing investments in the South Seafront area, where the Martello Park has already delivered new homes, a play area and new car parking facilities. The Council has also invested in the refurbishing the two public shelters on the South Seafront and the long-term maintenance of its historic Martello, which forms the centrepiece of the park. The £1.5 million project is funded by East Suffolk Council and the Coastal Communities Fund (CCF) which was launched in 2012 to promote sustainable economic growth and jobs in coastal areas. CCF awarded the Council £950,000 grant funding which enabled the project to go ahead. Additional funding of £30,000 was also awarded from the Coastal Revival Fund.

Cameron and Claire Marshall, owners of the Dedham Boathouse Group, said: "We are super excited to be launching The Kitchen @ Martello Park in Felixstowe next year. "The Kitchen @ Martello Park will be offering food and drinks with a laid-back seaside vibe. Alongside this, Cameron will also be making delicious homemade candy which will be aptly named The Sweetworks @ Martello Park.

"Whether it is illy Coffee or a Bacon Bap first thing in the morning or a light lunch, ice cream or a slice of homemade cake, there will be something for everyone to enjoy when we open."

Mark Hart, Joint Divisional Managing Director at Barnes Construction, said: "We are delighted to be involved in this excellent project and are very much looking forward to playing our part in the delivery of another significant community facility in Felixstowe." The project is being delivered by East Suffolk Council, Barnes Constructions, the Dedham Boathouse Group, Plaice Design and Superstructures.