

MELLIS PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING of MELLIS PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 27th FEBRUARY 2025 @ 6:30PM IN MELLIS MEMORIAL HALL

Present: Cllr L Read, Cllr A Cross, Cllr L Farley, Cllr N Lockett, Cllr G Paterson
Clerk – J Challis, 3 members of the public

Apologies: None.

1 Chair's welcome and to consider and approve apologies for absence

Cllr Read welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 To receive Declarations of Interest on agenda items

Cllr Cross declared a non-pecuniary declaration of interest against agenda item 16, as a member of the Memorial Hall Committee.

3 To consider requests for Dispensations on agenda items

It was agreed unanimously with 1 abstention, (Cllr Cross), for Cllr Cross to participate in agenda item 16, but abstain from any voting.

4 To resolve the draft minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16th January 2025 are a true and correct record

The draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16th January 2025 were approved unanimously with 2 abstentions (councillors who were not present at the meeting).

5 Report from County Councillor

CC Cllr Fleming was unable to attend the meeting; her report can be found as an addendum at the end of the minutes.

6 Report from District Councillor

DC Cllr Warboys was unable to attend the meeting; his report can be found as an addendum at the end of the minutes.

7 Public Participation Session (10 minutes set aside)

Two members of the public confirmed they were attending for item 10. The third member of the public was present for item 13; DC/25/00598.

Cllr Read proposed moving to agenda item 10. Approved unanimously.

(10 Duke of Edinburgh Award Volunteering Request)

The Council has received a request from a 14-year-old resident, who needs to complete the volunteering section of his Bronze DOE (Duke of Edinburgh) award. The resident was present with his father, and invited by Cllr Read to introduce himself and outline his request. The resident explained that he needs to complete 1 hour of volunteering per week for 12 weeks, and would like to do something that benefits the community.

Councillors commended the resident for his work towards his DOE award, and after discussing it was agreed that the digitisation of the history of Mellis, and Mellis Garden, are both projects he could help with. The resident indicated that he is happy to do volunteering work in Mellis Garden, and also with the digitisation. Cllr Cross will liaise with the resident and his father to arrange a schedule and starting date. The Clerk will ensure that a volunteer risk assessment is completed for all work carried out.

ACTION – Cllr Cross/Clerk as above.

8 Chair’s Report

All covered on the agenda apart from the following two items:

- Notices on the PC noticeboard outside the Memorial Hall entrance; notices have been displayed for items which are not PC related. Cllr Read has removed them because this noticeboard is only for PC related business. The old noticeboard at the top of Earlsford Road is open for residents to display any other notice relevant to the parish.
- A resident has reported that an ash tree on the common is showing signs of ash die back. Cllr Paterson said he will speak to the landowner in his capacity as Tre Warden.

9 Clerk/RFO’s Report

- MSDC has confirmed the precept request 2025/26, which gives the parish a council tax band D amount of £42.40. This is an increase of 4.01% on 2024/25.
- MSDC have sent information on the Great British Spring clean, encouraging PCs to organise litter picks: <https://www.keepbritaintidy.org/get-involved/support-our-campaigns/great-british-spring-clean/>. Cllr Cross and Cllr Farley will organise a litter pick in the next couple of months. The PC already has litter picking kits, and MSDC have confirmed within their email that they are able to supply bin bags and arrange for them to be collected after the litter pick. Cllr Cross and Cllr Farley will publish full details once a date has been arranged, and provide a copy of the volunteer risk assessment form to anyone who would like to take part.
- Suffolk County Council AROW Team have been in contact regarding the missing wooden public right of way finger post and sign on the Carnser, footpath 001. The original post was broken, and replaced with one of the new metal Carnser signs, however AROW have advised that the wooden post is statutory and needs to be replaced. They have said there will be a charge of £80 to replace the post, but the Clerk will appeal this because the original post was broken, and reports were raised using the Highways Reporting Tool.

10 Duke of Edinburgh Award Volunteering Request

Discussed as above.

11 To discuss response to National Grid’s Targeted Consultations on changes to proposals for Norwich to Tilbury

National Grid have announced a series of targeted consultations on potential changes to the proposals published during their statutory consultation in summer 2024. Mellis PC has been asked to comment on the consultation for Suffolk 1A, by 10th March 2025.

Full details of all the targeted consultations, including Suffolk 1A, are shown on National Grid’s website: <https://www.nationalgrid.com/electricity-transmission/network-and-infrastructure/infrastructure-projects/norwich-to-tilbury/public-consultation-and-programme>.

After discussing, whilst the consideration given to the airstrip in Burgate is appreciated, councillors agreed unanimously that they object to the proposed changes in Suffolk 1A, and would

also like to see a consultation for the Waveney Valley alternative proposal, which has not been included in the targeted consultations.

ACTION – Clerk to draft a response based on councillors’ comments, for approval by email, before submitting to National Grid.

Approved response, submitted to National Grid on 10th March 2025:

NG targeted consultation on changes to Norwich to Tilbury proposals, location reference Suffolk 1A.

Mellis Parish Council reiterates its STRONG objection to National Grid’s proposal for 50m overhead pylons to transport power from Norwich to Tilbury, as submitted in response to the consultation in July 2024.

Regarding the current proposed changes detailed in location ref Suffolk 1A, the Council is pleased to see that consideration has been given to the potential effects on local airstrips, however the Council objects to the placement of pylon RF099 and RG100, as well as the new construction laydown area alongside Dam Lane, due to the negative impact on the historic moat by Seethings Wood, and historic Dam Lane.

Pylon RG99 and RG100 will be much closer to, and negatively impact, the historic moat by Seethings Wood. This is an early medieval moated site, which was investigated in the 1930s by the archaeologist Basil Brown, who discovered the Anglo-Saxon Ship Burial at Sutton Hoo. The proposed changes to the placement of pylons RG99 and RG100 breach Holford Rule number 5: Rule 5: Prefer moderately open valleys with woods where the apparent height of towers will be reduced, and views of the line will be broken by trees: - The ruling states Where possible avoiding cutting extensive swathes through woodland blocks and consider opportunities for skirting edges of copses and woods. Protecting existing vegetation, including woodland and hedgerows, and safeguard visual and ecological links with the surrounding landscape.

The Parish Council also objects to the proposed change to the placement of pylon RG100 due to its proximity to Dam Lane, and the proposed construction laydown area running directly alongside Dam Lane.

Dam Lane is a beautiful green lane covering 1.6 miles across country, between Mellis Ash Road and the A143, near Wortham. It is a historical, local asset, much loved by ramblers, dog walkers and horse riders. which the Council believes needs permanent protection and should be treated as a historic relic. The placement of pylon RG100 will have a huge negative visual impact on this historic green lane, and as already stated above, breaches Holford Rule number 5.

The construction laydown area will make the lane unusable, negatively impact the wildlife it supports, and damage this historic asset. It will also bring the construction much closer to residences, and the conservation area and nature reserve of Mellis Common.

Mellis Parish Council is also extremely concerned that National Grid’s intention to renege on the Waveney Valley Alternative, has not been included, and requests that a consultation be raised urgently.

12 Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) EcoPower Suffolk – pre consultation proposal for energy farm with solar PV and battery energy storage system (BESS)

EcoPower Suffolk is a proposal for an energy farm with solar PV and Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) infrastructure, situated around Yaxley substation in Suffolk:

<https://ecopowersuffolk.com/our-proposals/>.

It is proposed to build a solar farm and BESS, covering approximately 1,500 acres with an anticipated capacity of around 250 megawatts (MW) of electricity. It will also include a grid connection that will run via underground cable to the point of connection at the Yaxley 400kV National Grid substation.

Due to its size, it is classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP). There will be a non-statutory consultation in spring 2025, with public briefing events.

Councillors discussed the proposal, noting that EcoEnergy offered to hold a public briefing session for Mellis, but when the Clerk tried to make the arrangements, they advised they could only offer a short online Teams meeting. The nearest public information event is being held in Gislingham on the 15th March 2025, 11-3pm, which councillors will try to attend. To be discussed further at the next meeting.

ACTION – Clerk to pursue public meeting with EcoEnergy in Mellis, as above.

7:25pm two members of the public left the meeting.

13 Planning

To Consider:

- DC/24/05535 - Full Planning Application - Erection of a Battery Energy Storage System and associated infrastructure including access, drainage, landscaping and other incidental works. Land South of Eye Airfield Industrial Estate, Castleton Way, Yaxley, Suffolk, IP23 8AW.

After discussing, councillors agreed unanimously that they OBJECT to this application for the following reasons:

1) *This application is high risk due to its proximity to a high-pressure gas pipeline. The Parish Council agrees with the letter dated 27th December 2024 from National Gas Transmission which states that the area is in a High-Risk Zone. There is a huge potential risk that a battery unit could catch fire and ignite the high-pressure gas pipeline. This poses a catastrophic health and safety risk to residential areas, the secondary school, and commercial properties, as well as nearby road users.*

2) *Flood risk; the increase of impermeable surface area created will significantly impact the watercourse, which cannot cope with additional surface water runoff.*

3) *Environmental; the Parish Council agrees with the letter from the Environment Agency dated 14th January 2025, and has concerns regarding the proposed drainage strategy for the site, and the pollution risk from lithium-Ion battery fires. In addition, whilst the Parish Council notes the content of the Biodiversity Net Gain assessment, it has concerns regarding the impact on wildlife due to the removal of existing, established native hedgerows and trees. The Parish Council also has concerns regarding light and noise pollution during the construction period, which will negatively impact nocturnal wildlife such as bats and owls, and affect local residents, as well as HGVs using unsuitable roads such as the Mellis Road. The Parish Council would expect strong conditions to be put in place to mitigate these concerns during the construction phase.*

The council would also like to see a more coordinated and transparent approach to the multiple energy applications being proposed.

- DC/25/00598 - Full application- Change of use of domestic stables to provide part-time equine assisted psychotherapy services (employment). Tree Tops, The Common, Mellis, Eye, Suffolk, IP23 8EE.

The third member of the public was present being the applicant of this planning request, and was given permission by Cllr Read to speak during this item. After discussing councillors agreed unanimously that they SUPPORT this application.

7:35pm member of the public left the meeting.

- DC/25/00780 - Householder Application - Proposed window replacement. Saddlers Cottage, The Common, Mellis, Eye, Suffolk, IP23 8EB.

Councillors agreed unanimously that they have NO OBJECTION to this application.

ACTION – Clerk to add comments to MSDC planning portal as above.

To Receive an Update on:

- DC/22/00416 – Application for Outline Planning Permission (All matters reserved) – Erection of petrol and electric charging facility with associated shop; roadside restaurant with drive through facility; E(g) (formerly B1) and B8 starter units; HGV lorry parking facility for rest area and drivers' facilities as a phased development. Land Adjacent North Roundabout A140, Ipswich Road, Brome Part in the Parish of Thrandeston, IP23 8AW – **Awaiting decision.**

14 Norfolk & Suffolk Devolution Consultation – proposal to form a Mayoral Combined County Authority for Norfolk & Suffolk

The consultation runs until the 13th April 2025, full details are available on the government website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/norfolk-and-suffolk-devolution>. The consultation is in the form of an online questionnaire, and is requesting feedback on the proposal to form a Mayoral Combine County Authority for Norfolk and Suffolk only, not the proposed local government restructuring.

After discussing, councillors agreed unanimously to defer a response until the next meeting, to allow more time to consider the proposal.

15 Progress Power Community Benefit Fund

Cllr Cross reported that he attended an online meeting as the PC's representative, where the committee considered the applications received for the second funding round. The community benefit fund is £90k per annum for 3 years, and accepts applications from organisations within Eye, Mellis, Yaxley, Brome & Oakley and Thrandeston. Applications for the third round open in May. Cllr Cross said that one of the applications discussed at the meeting, raised the issue of safeguarding, and suggested that this is something the council needs to ensure compliance with. Cllr Luckett agreed, particularly in relation to agenda item 10. Cllr Luckett volunteered to lead on this and will look at it further for the next meeting.

ACTION – Cllr Luckett as above.

16 Donation Request received from Mellis Memorial Hall Committee

The Chair of the MMHC has requested a donation from the PC to help with recent unexpected expenses relating to the Memorial Hall's sewage system, electrical wiring of the winter heating system and the need to update the wiring of one of the fuse boards, totalling in excess of £1,250. After discussing, Cllr Farley proposed a donation of £600.00. Seconded by Cllr Luckett.

The proposal was passed with 3 votes for, 0 votes against, and 2 abstentions including Cllr Cross who had already declared a non-pecuniary declaration of interest against this item.

ACTION – Clerk to advise Chair of the MMHC as above, and arrange for donation to be made by online transfer.

17 To discuss plans for VE Day 80 anniversary 8th May 2025

The Pageant Master has confirmed that there will be an official nationwide beacon lighting ceremony at 9:30pm on Thursday 8th May. Councillors agreed that arrangements will be made to light the beacon at this time, but discussed holding an event on Monday 5th May instead, which is a bank holiday. Suggested ideas included asking the Salvation Army band to play, organising village stalls, sounding the air raid siren, asking the MMHC if they could arrange a BBQ (as the PC has organised it for the last two village events), and a film night in the Memorial Hall using the new projector equipment. Cllr Cross will put these ideas to the MMHC at their next meeting on 20th March, and the event will be discussed further at the April PC meeting.

ACTION – Cllr Cross as above.

18 Tree Warden's Report

As per agenda item 8, Cllr Paterson will speak to the landowner regarding the ash tree with possible ash die back on the common.

19 Footpath Wardens' Report

Cllr Farley reported an increase in dog excrement being left on the footpaths, which will hopefully be resolved by the new bins.

ACTION – Clerk to chase delivery of new dog bins, as agreed with SWT.

20 Illegal grazing of the Common update

The owners of the horses have been served with a Community Protection Notice by PC Ferguson and PC Burton and asked to leave Mellis common. They have moved the horses to Wortham common, however the Notice covers the whole of Suffolk, so the police will be liaising with Wortham & Burgate Parish Council, and monitoring the situation to ensure the owners do not breach it.

21 To consider River Waveney Trust Natural Flood Management (NFM) Scheme

Cllr Farley, Cllr Cross and Cllr Luckett met with Ed King from the River Waveney Trust on the 20th January. Ed King explained that Mellis is key to preventing flooding elsewhere in the area due to the way the common holds water. He is keen to arrange a meeting with residents and local

landowners to discuss the many natural defences available, and future proofing. The Clerk will see if Ed King is available to attend the Annual Parish Meeting in May.

ACTION – Clerk as above.

22 Memorial Hall car park and pond maintenance update

Following Cllr Cross’s report from the recent Community Benefit Fund meeting, and confirmation that work to the pond would be eligible, it was agreed to seek quotations in order to submit an application for work to the pond and the car park, in time for the May funding round. Cllr Read and Cllr Cross will obtain quotations for the next meeting.

ACTION –Cllr Cross/Cllr Read as above.

23 To discuss speeding and traffic concerns in the village

Cllr Lockett reported that speed watch training from Suffolk Police has been arranged for the 10th March. There are six members of the speed watch team, all residents of Mellis. Yaxley PC was contacted to invite residents to join, but no one was forthcoming. The new VAS device will be delivered shortly. Cllr Lockett volunteered for it to be delivered to his address.

ACTION – Clerk to arrange for new VAS device to be delivered to Cllr Lockett.

24 Mellis Garden (Newsteads Land) update, including ongoing maintenance contract

Cllr Cross said that he is waiting for the quotation for the stakes to secure the benches. Cllr Paterson has received interest from two local contractors regarding the ongoing maintenance. Cllr Cross said that the pond will need to be cleaned soon, but without breaking through to the ditch in order to avoid run off from the road contaminating the pond.

ACTION – Cllr Cross/Cllr Paterson as above.

25 To discuss Wellhead project

Cllr Paterson and Cllr Cross will arrange a meeting to redo the wellhead plans. The Clerk has offered some free tiles which came from an old barn, and may be suitable for the wellhead roof. Cllr Cross will arrange to collect them.

ACTION – Cllr Cross/Cllr Paterson as above.

26 Finance

A list of payments and receipts, expenditure against the budget, and bank reconciliation to 24th November was sent to councillors. Barclays bank account balance as of 24th January 2025 - **£30,300.17**

ii) Review and authorisation of payments presented:

1	J. Challis	Clerk Admin February (6 weeks)	£665.28
2	J. Challis	Expenses – mileage & copy paper	£23.17
3	Memorial Hall	February hire	£30.00
5	Memorial Hall	Rural Coffee Caravan February hire	£20.00
6	L. Curtis	Bus shelter cleaning	£18.00
7	Memorial Hall	Donation	£600.00

Cllr Read proposed approval of all payments above, seconded by Cllr Cross and approved unanimously.

ACTION

- **Cllr Read and Cllr Cross to pay agreed payments above via online banking (dual authorisation).**

27 Matters for future consideration

- Phone box-stained glass repairs
- Digitisation of the History of Mellis
- Printing of more Common leaflets for new residents
- Electric vehicle charging points outside the Memorial Hall
- Safeguarding

28 The date of the meeting is Thursday 27th March 2025 at 6:30pm in Mellis Memorial Hall.

Meeting close at 9:12pm.

**Gislingham Ward
Mellis, Gislingham, Thornham, `Wortham & Burgate, Wickham Skeith Parish Councils
February 2025
District Councillor’s Report:**

<p>Extraordinary Council meeting Devolution</p>	<p>The extraordinary Council meeting scheduled for Monday 10th February was cancelled because there was insufficient information for us to debate the Devolution and local government reform situation in Suffolk. It is hoped to be able to re-schedule this debate. The Government has now agreed that County Council elections will not take place this year.</p> <p>The Government consultation on proposals to create a Mayoral Combined County Authority launched 17-02-2025 and is due to run for the next eight weeks. www.gov.uk/government/consultations/norfolk-and-suffolk-devolution</p> <p>This consultation does not cover proposals for any local government re-organisation of our existing councils, and that views on this will be sought as part of a separate process.</p>
<p>New Solar Farm EcoPower Suffolk PreApplication Stage</p>	<p>Econergy is an international independent power producer of renewable energy projects, operating across six different countries in Europe, including the UK.</p> <p>Econergy’s aim is to develop, own and operate utility-scale renewable energy projects, driven by deep industry, regulatory and technology expertise at every critical stage from origination to supply.</p> <p>Further, the EcoPower Suffolk team aim to deliver a well-designed nationally significant renewable energy project, through working holistically and collaboratively across specialist areas, with key stakeholders, and shaped by public engagement.</p> <p>EcoPower Suffolk Solar (‘the Project’) comprises a solar farm with an anticipated generation capacity of around 250 megawatts including co-located BESS.</p> <p>Indicatively, current site area extends to approximately 600 ha within the Mid Suffolk District Council area.</p> <p>Electrical connection to new 400kV Yaxley substation via underground cable.</p> <p>The indicative site comprises several parcels of land (5 landowners) situated around Yaxley substation. It is currently anticipated the site area closest to the Yaxley substation would accommodate the BESS and associated infrastructure.</p> <p>We are also looking to engage with the Local Planning Authority and local communities to collaborate on any suggested community benefit initiatives we can deliver as part of the Project.</p> <p>Gislingham Village Hall –Saturday 15th March, 11am -3pm</p> <p>Gov Website: https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN0110019</p>

<p>NG Norwich to Tilbury</p>	<p>NG is undertaking a targeted consultation on potential changes changes as a result of the statutory consultation. People living near the proposed changes have been contacted directly. However the consultation is open to everyone and the consultation material are available on the NG Website:</p> <p>https://www.nationalgrid.com/electricity-transmission/network-and-infrastructure/infrastructure-projects/norwich-to-tilbury/public-consultation-and-program</p> <p>Consultation runs from 30th January to 3rd March 2025</p> <p>Local changes. Pylons further East of Gislingham avoiding Spring Farm meadows, Extended undergrounding of the existing 400KVA grid at the bottom of Dam lane, no underground option where it crosses the R Waveney, as a result of the geological results.</p>
<p>Local Plan review</p>	<p>With the new NPPF published alongside new increased housing targets, MSDC and Babergh have no real option other than to review the Joint Local plan part 1 which was adopted in November 2023. The existing plan may become superseded by new national policies if they are not updated. The councils will now build on the work already done on part 2 of the plan alongside reviewing part 1. The new timetable for the new plan will be brought to both councils in February.</p>
<p>Eurogarage service area A1088/A14 junction</p>	<p>A Breach of Condition notice and an Enforcement notice were served on EG On the Move Elmswell services. The business is continuing to operate despite this. Officers are taking a close interest in the steps the operator is taking to address the planning and highway safety issues. We are still awaiting an update on the current situation.</p>
<p>February Half term activities</p>	<p>Children across the districts have a great range of activities to enjoy this February half term thanks to a programme of events put together by Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils. Activities on the schedule include arts and crafts, multi-sport holiday clubs, outdoor adventure days, dance camps and much more. The whole family can also get involved with swimming sessions taking place in both Hadleigh and Stowmarket. Information about the activities is published on the website. https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/w/school-holiday-activities</p>
<p>Locality Budgets 2024/25</p>	<p>I have received a number of applications for the remaining funds within my locality budget. Some applications will have directed to wait until the next round of funding begins – hopefully in late May, early June.</p>

County Councillor Report



Councillor Jessica Fleming, Hartismere Division. Tel. 07714-597980 Jessica.fleming@suffolk.gov.uk

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Devolution – Suffolk and Norfolk are included in the new Government's devolution priority programme. Other priority areas include Cumbria, Cheshire and Warrington, Essex, Hampshire and the Solent, Sussex and Brighton. Districts, boroughs and counties will be asked to reorganise into unitary authority areas with the election of a mayor (covering Suffolk and Norfolk) in May 2026. The mayor would control strategic programmes such as transport infrastructure, economic development, health improvement and blue light services. County Council elections in May 2025 will not go ahead, under the Government's proposals local councillors would extend their time in office by one year to be elected in 2026 to represent new unitary boundaries. Other points include:

1. The first mayor of Suffolk and Norfolk will be elected in May 2026. In the first instance, they will lead a Mayoral Combined County Authority – which will transition into a Mayoral Strategic Authority
2. SCC will now start work on a detailed business case for local government reorganisation in Suffolk which must be submitted by September 2025. An outline plan must be submitted in March 2025
3. The government has re-confirmed this week its preference that any new unitary authorities should serve communities of 500,000 or more
4. Capacity funding will be offered to help us prepare for establishing the new Combined County Authority with Norfolk County Council and prepare for mayoral elections in May 2026.

Large Scale Solar Proposals – Two large (NSIP) solar proposals are at early stages in the local area currently, these are: Elmya north of Mendlesham (675 acres) with public consultation expected shortly <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/planning-waste-and-environment/major-infrastructure-projects-including-nsips/nationally-significant-infrastructure-projects-nsips/white-elm-solar-farm> and EcoPower around Yaxley/ Mellis/Eye around 1500 acres) at very early stage - <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/council-news/suffolk-prepares-for-another-significant-solar-farm-proposal>

National Grid Pylon Scheme Public Consultation – NG briefed some councillors and SCC officers last Thursday about several proposed modifications to the pylon route, these are apparently a result of the recent public consultation and affect the following areas directly:

Suffolk 1 – between Palgrave and Mellis

Suffolk 2 – east of Gislegham

There are also some changes affecting plans for undergrounding in the Waveney Valley in Suffolk and Norfolk which may make this unviable but we will be briefed about them shortly.

Information is available on – nationalgrid.com/norwich-to-tilbury

Yaxley Battery Electric Storage Site, Yaxley - DC/24/05535 | Full Planning Application with Environmental Statement - Erection of a Battery Energy Storage System and associated infrastructure including access, drainage, landscaping and other incidental works. Please note that this proposal is within the high risk zone of a high pressure natural gas pipeline and is subject of a holding objection from National Gas Transmission PLT, it has also been referred to the Health and Safety Executive: *An assessment has been carried out with respect to National Gas Transmission plc's apparatus and the proposed work location. Based on the location entered into the system for assessment the area has*

*been found to be within the High Risk zone from National Gas Transmission plc's apparatus and you **MUST NOT PROCEED** without further assessment from Asset Protection. Refer to Field Yaxley - planning reference [DC/24/05535](#).*

Budget Proposals - Suffolk County Council's 2025/26 budget has risen by 6.7%, from £752.9 million in 2024/25 to £803.7 million in 2025/26 to meet current pressures. The budget was approved by cabinet on 28th January and at full council on February 13th. Council taxes would rise by 4.99%.

New Bus Timetable – the new timetable for 2025 has been issued, there are some relatively minor adjustments in it and possibly more to come in the near future. A full list of bus timetable changes in Suffolk is on [Suffolkonboard](#).

Please get in touch with me if you have questions or comments: Jessica.fleming@suffolk.gov.uk Tel: 07714-597980
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