

AUTUMN 2020 GREENVIEW

COVID SECURE DELIVERY

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GREEN PARTY IN BECCLES,
WORLINGHAM, NORTH COVE AND BARNBY



Green Party
for the common good

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!



PPE DONATION TO BACT

On March 23rd the Prime Minister told the country 'we will be locking down'. This was short notice for everyone, but your District and County Councillors were ready to support the community. Cllr Elfrede Brambley-Crawshaw called a meeting of community leaders, including Beccles Town Council, local churches, the foodbank, voluntary organisations and Worlingham, North-Cove and Barnby Parish Councils. In the weeks that followed over 190 volunteers helped this new group deliver food, prescriptions and other essential support to residents.

As part of this huge community effort Cllrs Graham Elliott, Caroline Topping, Elfrede Brambley-Crawshaw and Mark Bee operated a community helpline from 8am – 10pm, 7 days a week for over 20 weeks.

Over 250 members of our community were assisted in this way.

Caroline Topping said, *"We are so grateful for the hard work and commitment of the volunteers who helped us during this difficult time. It was incredibly heart-warming to have such a wonderful response to our call for help."*

Throughout Lockdown the councillors were keen to encourage as much fun and positivity as possible. They helped deliver 100's of Easter eggs to children with rainbows in their windows, and for VE day they organised a bag of sweets for every resident in our local residential homes. These were beautifully decorated in red, white and blue packaging, and were supplied and delivered by Sweeties of Beccles. Beccles Mayor Ashley Lever, who worked with your Green councillors, said *"these are small gestures, but we hope that they made our residents feel special."*

PPE has been especially important during the last 6 months, huge thanks to those that answered the request to help the local community with PPE equipment. Cllr Topping organised a steady supply from her home, including homemade items made from preloved bedding which was collected by local people for cutting and sewing into drawstring bags, gowns, face masks and scrub type hats. For those unable to assist with sewing, offers of financial donations were directed to Su Taylor who made up a large batch of facemasks for the community.

Another donation was deposited with Beccles Sewing and Handicraft, so our volunteers could pop in and collect supplies of thread, cord, elastic, etc.

PARKING FIASCO

Since parking enforcement transferred to East Suffolk from the police and the County Council simultaneously transferred other parking related powers; there have been lots of issues for residents.

The Parking permit scheme for Black Boy Meadow has been delayed again, the cabinet portfolio holder responsible has ensured us that it will be dealt with urgently.

Parking issues on Grove Road were initially a problem with some Traffic Regulation Orders being incorrectly recorded on the East Suffolk system, therefore anyone who was ticketed should be able to claim the money back.

Residents on Peddars Lane can now apply for a resident waiver so that they can park on a Friday without being ticketed. Residents will need to visit www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/parking if further guidance is needed please call the East Suffolk office on 01502 523260.

There has also been a change to existing on street residents parking. Now a permit is registered to a specific vehicle rather than a particular house. This has caused disruption and distress to some residents who rely on moving the permit between vehicles to accommodate carers, need more than one car, or to allow visits from friends and family members.

Cllr Caroline Topping will attend the scrutiny committee at East Suffolk to look into this and would welcome hearing about your experiences, so please get in touch. There are also anomalies with signage in some of our carparks, your local councillors have been putting lots of pressure on East Suffolk to rectify this quickly.

COMMUNITY BID FOR THE LOCKS INN



Locks Inn at Geldeston has been the social and community hub of the Waveney Valley for generations. It is an iconic pub in an iconic location. It may be isolated on the river in the middle of nowhere, but it is an important part of life for residents of Beccles and Worlingham. It can be reached from the town by footpaths on both the Norfolk and Suffolk sides of the river and by various types of river craft along The Waveney. But perhaps the most interesting connection is the Big Dog Ferry which runs from Beccles Lido to the pub during the summer months. The Locks is a place to meet old friends and to make new ones, and it is a special place for local musicians and music lovers. Many thousands of people have a strong emotional attachment to the place.

On 21st September Graham Elliott discovered the pub was up for sale and would go under the hammer at auction on 21st October. The sale details state that alternative uses for the site could be possible, meaning that there is a real risk

that the pub could be snapped up by a developer with very different plans, and that generations of social heritage could be lost.

Graham immediately formed a group with the view to creating a community-owned and community-run pub that retained all the positive elements of the past and reached out to an even greater range of people in the future.

The response to his appeal has been overwhelming. Graham said, *"I have been staggered by the offers of help and investment. I knew it was a special place but I didn't realise quite how many other people felt the same way. It's a tough time to be taking on a pub but I am absolutely convinced that in community ownership we can do it"*

If successful, there will be a community share issue so that people can own a share of this iconic pub. Smaller donations to the *"fighting fund"* can be made via our crowdfunding page at <https://www.gofundme.com/f/save-the-locks>

If you want to get involved in any way please contact communitybid@outlook.com

KEN MARKLAND WAY

Elfrede was really excited to finally get Ken Markland Way resurfaced, having been pushing for it for many months.

Ken Markland way is an important link from Common Lane to clubs and services which many local residents benefit from.

Elfrede said “*Many of you will know that I’ve been trying to get this sorted for some time, the surface was unacceptable for its users who attend the May Centre, Sunbeams Nursery, Guides and lots of other well loved sports clubs. It’s taken a while to organise and secure the funding but now I’m so excited to see the new surface and cycle along it!*”



BECCLES TERRACYCLE RETURNS!

Caroline, Elfrede and Graham would like to say a huge thank you to Yanny Mac and Jamie Larter for taking over the Terracycle collection for them.

Cllr Caroline Topping said “I am absolutely delighted that Yanny and Jaime have come forward to take these events on. The previous events were cancelled as we went into lockdown, but it is reassuring to know that recycling is still an important issue in our community.”

Initially, the collection will be reduced to crisps, Pringles and cake/biscuit wrappers due to Covid restrictions.

Future dates will be advertised on the Beccles Terracycle facebook group, contact your local councillors in the usual way for information if you are unable to access facebook.

Beccles Terracycle has so far raised over £400 for new play equipment at Beccles Quay playpark.

ANTISOCIAL DRIVING

In the last few weeks Elfrede, Caroline and Graham have had a rise in people contacting them concerned about speeding and anti-social driving around the town and particularly on the relief road. Advice from the Police is copied below:

- Anti-Social Behaviour with regards to vehicles need to be reported to the Police by the member of public at the time when it is happening and where possible a description of the vehicle and its registration number.
- If the member of the community has dash cam footage this will also assist the Police.
- If it is a specific complaint about someone putting something on a road surface this needs to be fully reported to the Police.
- When reporting issues to the Police, it is essential to note the time, location, what vehicles are being used - including registrations or descriptions, and a description of the incident.

Members of the public can report non urgent matters online via this link - <https://www.suffolk.police.uk/contact-us/report-something>

A1 'STEPS UP' WITH FANTASTIC DONATION

A1 Clearance and recycling was kind enough to fundraise for our local campaign to replace the Quay play equipment.

£140 was raised thanks to the kindness of Ian Larter who has supported lots of community projects with donations from his business, Mayor Ashley Lever was very happy to accept the donation on behalf of the community group with Cllr Caroline Topping who has been part of the campaign.

Nearly £30,000 has been raised for a new park, but there is still some way to go!



MAYOR WELCOMES DONATION

YOUR LOCAL GREEN COUNCILLORS

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Printed on recycled paper with bio-degradable ink by Anglia Print Limited, 5b Moor Business Park, Ellough Road, Beccles NR34 7TQ

Promoted and published by Toby Hammond on behalf of Waveney Green Party, both at Laurels Farm, Barsham, Beccles, NR34 8HD



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