

## YOUTH 'DROP IN CAFE'

In mid-February, it is planned for the 'Old Ambulance Station' on Blyburgate to open up on a Monday evening for young people to 'drop in' and have a meeting space. It is anticipated that it will be from 6pm to 9pm and will be for ages 15 to 18.

Green Party Councillor Caroline Topping said, *"We are open to suggestions on what you would like us to provide and also the times which best suit you. This will be a youth-led project, rather than an adult-led one, so we need your ideas in order to supply what is wanted and not what we think is wanted! So far, we have a brand new table tennis table, table top football, pool and a play-station. We have also been asked for multi-sport tables, board games, jukebox and a tuck shop."*



CAROLINE TOPPING TESTS  
THE NEW TABLE TENNIS TABLE

Please contact Caroline Topping for further information.

## YOUR LOCAL GREEN COUNCILLORS

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Town Councillor for Beccles Darby



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### CAROLINE TOPPING

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Town Councillor for Beccles Common



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## FEBRUARY 2019 GREENVIEW

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



## HGV SURVEYS SHOW THE NEED FOR WEIGHT LIMITS IN TOWN

Beccles Road Safety Group is undertaking a series of HGV surveys to assess the scale of lorry movements through the town. Five teams of people were stationed at strategic locations around the town, to record all lorry movements through each location.

Members were able to time and detect lorries going through the town as opposed to those servicing businesses within the town.

The first survey was undertaken in December during the closure of Station Road when driving through the town centre was difficult. Unsurprisingly it recorded very few lorries doing this. The second survey was undertaken with all roads fully open and recorded a significant number of lorries passing through the town.

Survey organiser Councillor Graham Elliott said, *"Thanks to the cooperation of M&H Plastics it is encouraging to see their regular delivery lorries using the bypass as this removes many heavy lorries from the town centre. However there are still a significant number of lorries travelling through the town that should be using the new relief road. These early survey results clearly show there is a case for weight limits*



*to deter lorries from using the town streets unnecessarily."*

County Councillor Elfrede Brambley-Crawshaw added, *"We have had success getting the A145 routed around the town and more recently we have managed to get much improved signage to encourage traffic to use the new relief road and avoid the town centre. The focus now has to be to deter the lorries that ignore the signs and travel unnecessarily through our town."*

Further surveys will be undertaken by the Group members to gather more data.

## SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS CRISIS

A report to the County Council cabinet in September highlighted Suffolk's issues with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) provision. The report expects an 18% increase in children with SEND in Suffolk between 2018 and 2020. In the short-term Suffolk County Council needs to find 300-400 new specialist education places and at least 4 new special schools.

As a direct result of this report Suffolk County Council created an emergency Policy Development Panel (PDP) to tackle the crisis. Cllr Elfrede Brambley-Crawshaw was invited to be part of this cross-party group and has spent the last four months visiting special schools across Suffolk and meeting parents and teachers to discuss the best way forward. Elfrede said, *"We discovered that children are spending hours in taxis being taken to provision outside county at great expense to their wellbeing as well as to the public purse. We are recommending that the Cabinet should create an additional 828 specialist education places over the next 5 years with an investment of £45m. In the long term this investment will save money as well looking after our young people properly."*

## SPEAK TO US

Councillor surgeries at Beccles Library with Elfrede Brambley-Crawshaw, Graham Elliott and Caroline Topping. An opportunity for residents within Beccles Division to come and speak to us about any concerns they may have.

10:30am to 11:30am

24 February 2019, 17 March 2019

But please feel free to stop us in the street any time!

## GET INVOLVED... DO YOU WANT TO HELP DELIVER GREEN PARTY NEWSLETTERS?

2 Old Hall, Barsham, Beccles NR34 8HB [info@waveney.greenparty.org.uk](mailto:info@waveney.greenparty.org.uk)

[www.waveney.greenparty.org.uk](http://www.waveney.greenparty.org.uk) 01502 714661 [facebook.com/wavgp](https://facebook.com/wavgp) @WaveneyGreens



**Green Party**  
for the common good



# ROAD SAFETY PROTEST

On a cold morning in December local Councillors joined residents to raise awareness of road safety issues in Beccles. The action had three main aims.

- 1 Highlight our concerns to Suffolk County Council** about the lack of safe crossings for children accessing schools in Beccles and register our frustration that maintaining the road markings at the crossings that do exist, are not considered high priority.
- 2 To remind motorists** to slow down when children are present, and in particular to obey the highway code and stop at the Zebra Crossing if someone is waiting to cross.
- 3 To remind children** to take road safety seriously and cross roads in a safe way.

Elfrede Brambley-Crawshaw County Councillor for Beccles said "As a councillor and resident of Beccles with school age children I am aware of the issues during the school run of children walking to school safely. Many residents have contacted me worried about cars not stopping at fading Zebra crossings or children crossing roads without adequate infrastructure to make it safe."

District Councillor Graham Elliott added, "The Beccles Southern Relief Road is a huge opportunity to make the roads within the town much safer. We want a town with less traffic and with slower traffic. We must make sure we seize this opportunity and not just wait and see what happens now the new road is open. We want to make the whole town more pedestrian and cycle friendly so that more people feel able to choose these healthy and clean modes of transport."



GREEN COUNCILLORS LEAD ROAD SAFETY AWARENESS PROTEST

## LOWESTOFT RECORDS OFFICE DECISION SLAMMED

Suffolk County Council scrutiny committee met on the 29 November to investigate the decision making process to remove the record office from Lowestoft. The committee unanimously agreed that the council had not followed it's own constitutional processes and there had been no engagement with depositors prior to the decision being made.

Cllr Brambley-Crawshaw who sat on the committee said, "This council has betrayed the trust of the users of Lowestoft Record Office. Members of staff and councillors followed an agenda and arrived at a decision without any engagement with the public. This was not democratic and it was not accountable, we have shone a light on some very bad practice. The Waveney area has a right to know what is happening to it's services and defend them if they are under threat."

Cllr Caroline Topping who spoke at the scrutiny meeting said "Apparently this decision was made in the name of protecting Waveney's records. At the scrutiny meeting it came to light that the whole process was flawed and should never have happened as it did. Suffolk County Council tell us they will not reverse the decision. Meanwhile Bury St Edmunds and Ipswich retain their historical assets at the expense of Beccles and Waveney as a whole".

# RECYCLING EVENTS

Waveney Green Party ran their second "Give and Take" event at Blyburgate Hall on 19 January. These events allow people to bring along their unwanted goods and take away anything that is of use to them. There is no requirement to bring anything or indeed to take anything and no money changes hand.

The local Green Party has also set up a 'TerraCycle' collection point and have registered to take seven streams of items for recycling. At present, we are asking people to collect these items in their homes and bring them along to our monthly collection events which will initially be in either Blyburgate Hall or in the Old Ambulance Station next door. We will then weigh the items and send them on for recycling.

- The items that can be brought to our collection points are:-
- crisp packets
  - oral care products and packaging
  - biscuit/cake/cracker wrappers
  - personal care/beauty products
  - Ella's kitchen baby food pouches
  - Pringles packaging
  - contact lenses

Additionally we are collecting plastic lids off squash and milk bottles for Lush.

Future events will take place between 10am and noon as follows:

DATE	GIVE AND TAKE	TERRACYCLE	LOCATION
16 Feb		✓	Ambulance Station Blyburgate
16 Mar	✓	✓	Blyburgate Hall
20 Apr		✓	Ambulance Station Blyburgate
11 May	✓	✓	Blyburgate Hall
15 June		✓	Ambulance Station Blyburgate
20 July	✓	✓	Blyburgate Hall
17 Aug		✓	Ambulance Station Blyburgate
14 Sept	✓	✓	Blyburgate Hall



ELFREDE AND CAROLINE RELAX BEFORE THE CROWDS ARRIVE!

# EAST SUFFOLK COUNCIL ELECTION

On 2 May there will be elections to the newly formed East Suffolk Council.

This new Council is effectively a merger of Waveney and Suffolk Coastal District Councils. It creates a huge District stretching from Lowestoft to Felixstowe and will be the biggest District Council in the country. Currently there are two District Councillors for Beccles North, two for Beccles South and two for Worlingham, North Cove and Barnby. These three District Council wards will merge and the new large ward will be represented by three Councillors. The new District Council ward will be the same as the current County Council Division.

The Green Party have selected Elfrede Brambley-Crawshaw, Graham Elliott and Caroline Topping as their candidates for this ward. We believe this is the "Dream Team" to represent the area having a wealth of experience, energy and enthusiasm. But perhaps most importantly, these three really work well together as a team!



THE DREAM TEAM

# BECCLES BOMBLES

Beccles Bombs is a friendly volunteering group that meet at 3pm every Tuesday to clean up litter-strewn areas of our beautiful town. We target a different area every week and supply all the equipment needed to do the job. We welcome new like minded people.

If you would like to spend an hour a week in friendly company then please contact Caroline Topping, or check out our Facebook page, Beccles Bombs.