

**Report from Cllr. Graham Elliott
Green Party Councillor for Beccles North
Waveney District Council
6 July 2010**

Beccles Lido

Progress continues and the prospects of opening for a short “summer holiday” season are looking good.

- The lease has been abandoned in favour of a freehold transfer of the site to BLL
- Revenue support is still critical. BTC have pledged £5k for this season subject to conditions. This support is critical and very welcome. Capital grant funding is proving easier to obtain.
- Full time pool staff have been appointed. Casual and part-time staff are being interviewed.
- British Gas Green Streets appointed contractors started work on 28 June. They have already removed the old gas boilers and prepared the pool tank for its lining.
- A secure and attractive fence has been installed between the lido and the rear gardens in Puddingmoor. The riverside fence has also been secured and this still allows for excellent river views from the pool.

Beccles Town Councillors are invited to visit the Lido to see work in progress at midday on Monday 12th July.

Beccles Rail Loop

I continue to campaign for this important project, particularly in the light of severe cutbacks in government funding. I have been in touch with Cllr. Guy McGregor who remains positive about the project.

VIP Cycle Rides

I organised two VIP bike rides, one in Beccles and one in Lowestoft, during Bike Week. These rides demonstrated many new cycling facilities that have implemented over the past decade and also highlighted projects “in the pipeline” and problem areas that need to be tackled if we are to make cycling a realistic transport option in the town. It was good to be joined by the Mayor of Beccles.

Cycle Maps

The Waveney Valley cycle maps have finally been launched and are now available online. Beccles Cycle Strategy intends to get some funds to print them later this year. Whilst they are "on-line only" they are relatively easy to amend so please let us know if you have any corrections or suggestions. The links are now on the Town Council website.

Local cycle routes information leaflet

<http://www.visit-sunrisecoast.co.uk/Documents/Cycling/CyclingMasterLeaflet.pdf>

The Three Rivers Loop

<http://www.visit-sunrisecoast.co.uk/Documents/Cycling/CycleLoop1.pdf>

Marshes and Lanes

<http://www.visit-sunrisecoast.co.uk/Documents/Cycling/CycleLoop2.pdf>

The Brewery Tour map

<http://www.visit-sunrisecoast.co.uk/Documents/Cycling/CycleLoop3.pdf>

The Beccles South Loop

<http://www.visit-sunrisecoast.co.uk/Documents/Cycling/CycleLoop4.pdf>

The Saints Tour

<http://www.visit-sunrisecoast.co.uk/Documents/Cycling/CycleLoop5.pdf>

Big Dog Ferry

I have liaised with a potential new operator for the Big Dog Ferry to operate from the floating pontoon adjacent to the Lido. Both the Lido and the Big Dog Ferry are unique attractions for local people and visitors alike. While many towns are becoming increasingly similar it is good news that we are maintaining and enhancing the character of our town. The item brought to the previous Town Council meeting was part of Waveney's improved communication and cooperation with Beccles Town Council. My vision for next year is that the floating pontoon and the access road to be managed by Beccles Lido Limited, who will be better placed to maintain the facilities and to collect revenue from them. BLL are also much more able to secure capital grants to improve the facilities. In this scenario ALL the money raised will benefit Beccles. I will attempt to negotiate such a transfer once the Lido is up and running.

I have continued to work on numerous issues and personal matters relating to housing, council tax benefit, waste recycling etc.

Graham Elliott
01502 714661
077 3334 8811