

Green Party Waveney & Suffolk Coastal Time Line

2000

Suffolk Coastal and South Norfolk
are the active green parties in Suffolk
A fundraiser garden party in Aldeburgh effectively underwrites
Suffolk Coastal Green Party.

Graham Elliott arrives

2001

Parliamentary Candidate for Waveney

Graham Elliott stands
Ingo from South Norfolk persuades Graham Elliott
to stand for Member of Parliament for Waveney.
The campaign is funded by Suffolk Coastal.
Won by Bob Blizzard, Labour (MP from to 2010 when Peter Aldous
took seat)

Finding the Base Green Vote

2002

Waveney District Elections

Ambitious - Greens put forward 7 candidates

Anthony Abbot came 2nd in The Saints

2003

Waveney District Elections

Ambitious – Candidates put up in every ward to assess the “base” green vote. Halesworth was highest followed by Bungay.

2004

Halesworth targetted in Waveney District Elections

Paul Whitlow /Jan Berry candidates

Issues: Graham, involved with Sustrans, worked with Richard Woolnough to purchase the land to put Sustrans Route 1 through Halesworth - what is today the cycle route through the Millennium Green.

European Elections

Remember these? Margaret Wright stands for Green candidate

Parliamentary Candidate -

Graham Elliott & Paul Whitlow stand for Waveney and Suffolk Coastal

Targeting Beccles North

2006

Target ward switched to Beccles North

Issues: Cycling / Beccles Railway station the Passing Loop (fulfilled in 2012)/ Spy in Wheelie Bin / Adrian Ramsay

2007

Beccles Waveney District Council Elections - Graham Elliott wins with 41% of the vote

Issues: Beccles Lido begins. Opens 2010

2008

Beccles Waveney District Council

Attempt to get second seat not successful
Nicky Elliott / Netta Swallow

2009

Issue: Beccles Relief Road begins

2010

Parliamentary Candidate -

Graham stands for MP - Peter Aldous (Conservative) wins from Bob Blizzard

Branch out to Bungay

2011

Bungay and Beccles District Elections

Kate Jackson / Josiah Meldrum

Maxine Narburgh / Paul Jackson

Nicky Elliott / Graham Elliott

By Election Worlingham: Sue Bergin

Still no second seat!

Issues: Beccles Public Hall

2013 / 2015

Bungay District Elections

Simon Thompson The Greengrocer Versus the John Groom the Butcher

Beccles Town Council - Nicky Elliott elected

Beccles Suffolk County Council

Graham Elliott & Sue Bergin stand

Elfrede Bramley Crawshaw arrives

2014

District Elections Beccles:

Elfrede Bramley Crawshaw / Graham Elliott

2015

Beccles Town Council Graham Elliott, Nicky Elliott and Elfrede Bramley Crawshaw elected
Graham Elliott elected again to District Council. Still no second seat!

2016

Beccles Elfrede Deputy Mayer

2017

Beccles - Elfrede Bramley Crawshaw elected to Suffolk County Council

2018

Issues: Beccles Railway Cafe opened

Elfrede Bramley Crawshaw elected Mayor of Beccles

Caroline Topping arrives - the Dream Team

2018

Caroline Topping crossed the floor, turning Green

3 votes 3 greens

2019

**Beccles District Council - elected
Caroline Topping,
Elfrede Bramley Crawshaw,
Graham Elliott**

Suffolk Coastal District first Seat

2019

Melton District Council - Rachel Rachel Smith-Lyte

the first Green to be elected in the old Suffolk Coastal district

Halesworth joins Bungay and Beccles

Halesworth Issues: Terracycle first campaign working with Edgar Sewter

2020

Halesworth: Annette on her bike thanking Huggy

Bungay: Toby at the Co-op talking plastic / Annette Abbott

Beccles: Caroline and Elfrede thanking BACT for PPE

Elections

2021

Suffolk County Council - Halesworth ward - won by Annette Dunning

Suffolk County Council - Beccles - won by Peggy McGreggor

Suffolk County Council - Beccles - won by Caroline Topping

East Suffolk District Council - won by Sarah Plumber

East Suffolk District Council - Aldeburgh and Leiston Ward won by Tom DALY

Graham to the Locks / Elfrede retains District surrenders County.
Waveney Joint Newsletter - Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth - getting vaccinated

Adrian Ramsay chooses Suffolk as prospective MP

Risky Birth of Beccles Lido 2006-09

The Beccles lido was constructed in 1959 on the site of an older bathing pool. Prior to that swimmers used a fenced off part of the River Waveney in the town. Heating was installed in 1975. In 2004 Waveney District Council announced plans to close the lido and to build an indoor swimming pool.

In 2006, owned by Waveney District Council, the lido was losing customers, losing structure and maintenance. A prison like fence was erected around it to cut costs on life-guards. Friends of Beccles Outdoor Pool campaign started in 2006 to maintain the pool.

2007 Beccles Lido Ltd, led by Shawn Crowley, re-positioned the view, with an ambitious aim to lease or own it.

2008 BLL applied for a large British Gas grant. Shawn Crowley, Graham Elliott and a Catholic priest rocked up to make a presentation (the salesman, hippie and priest)
They didn't win the initial grant funding, but did the runner up which in effect funded new boiler, pool liner, cover, and solar panels. They still didn't own it.

In 2009, Waveney District Council agreed to sell (not lease) Beccles Lido to BLL (at the same time as they decided they would no longer manage Halesworth Open Air Pool).

The chairman of Beccles Lido, Maureen Saunders, won a community pride award in July 2009 for her work campaigning for the lido and establishing the management company.

Beccles Public Hall

Owned by Waveney District council who wanted to divest themselves of it.

In 2011, there was a rallying call to the community for volunteers to come forward and help save the Public Hall.

District councillor Graham Elliott was instrumental in helping to save the building as he made it a central part of his election campaign, therefore spreading the word to all the community.

Graham approached BLL, who at first said no - for their own good reasons. However they later agreed, conditional upon Beccles Public Hall having their own team to manage the project. BLL would be the official umbrella organisation.

February 2013 - The Public Hall was purchased by Beccles Lido Limited (BLL), a registered charity, and is run by it's own board of Trustees.

Marsh View Direct Action

Spring 2011 The first direct action of the Green Party

A landowner wanted to cut down a local woodland, near Marsh View.

The Council were helpless - it would take too long to get a Tree Preservation Order to save the woodland.

The Green Party, led by Graham Elliott, mustered some activists, and they stood in front of the contractors bulldozer.

The contractor walked away.

The landowner backed off.

The woodland stands today- with a TPO on it.