

County Councillor Report



January 2022

Palgrave Parish Council

Councillor Jessica Fleming, Hartismere Division, Suffolk

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Budget Progress - Suffolk County Council has outlined how it plans to focus resources in 2022/23.

- More money to support children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)
- Extra resources for adults in need of care
- Additional funds to prevent flooding and fix footpaths

Under the proposals, the 2022-23 budget would rise by 4.5% (from £598.2 to £625.4m). The additional money would come from a 2.99% increase in Council Tax (including 1% dedicated social care precept), and an increase in grants received from the Government. The proposals were considered at the January scrutiny meeting and will go to cabinet and full council in February.

Police & Crime Levy – The PCC Tim Passmore is requesting support to raise the policing element of the council precept by £10 a year (Band D property) to fund major improvements to the contact and control service (101). A survey is open to assess public opinion on the precept which closes on 27th January: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/SuffolkPolicingPreceptSurvey2022-2>

Footpaths & Drainage -Due to increasing maintenance demand £10 million will be committed to improving drainage and a further £10 million to improve footpath quality and access. Suffolk Highways will use the drainage investment alongside funding from DfT to help resolve local flooding.

The Hold, Ipswich wins Award - the new archives and heritage centre on Ipswich Waterfront, won a prestigious national architecture and building award for the public sector. SPACES, the Society for Public Architecture, Construction, Engineering and Surveying, named The Hold as the winner in the Community Category at their online award ceremony on 8th December.

LED Street Light Replacement - On December 17th Suffolk's LED replacement programme has reached 10,000 LEDs. Bouygues Energies & Services, the lead contractor will replace all 43,400 streetlights in the County. These lanterns use less energy than the traditional streetlights. The project is due to complete by the end of 2022 and extends to Parishes and District Councils

Please note that there are now licensing and testing requirements for any apparatus to be hung from a street lamp, current details are on the Suffolk County Council website: [Attachments to street lighting columns or electrical installations on or over the highway licence | Suffolk County Council](#)

Covid Vaccination and Booster Service – Information about the Suffolk and NE Essex services for Covid vaccinations and boosters can be found on: <https://sneevaccine.org.uk/> Walk in clinics off