

Report to Parishes in the Bungay & Wainford Ward for July,
from District Councillor Judy Cloke

Community Partnerships:

These meetings have restarted in our CP area, with a Task & Finish group consisting of the Core Membership established at our previous face to face meeting in the spring. It has been quite a task to finalise this group over the series of meetings we have held. There have been 'loyal attendees', such as the District Councillors and Bungay Town Councillors, but others have drifted back and forth. However, I think we may be OK now. Groups have gone away to report back to the next meeting on 13 July with potential projects to spend the next round of funding to be discussed and hopefully agreed by the whole group.

Parking:

I think I reported last time Civil Parking Enforcement was about to arrive – and it has, with a vengeance in Bungay. On street tickets are being issued now and from my observations as I walk about, the streets with waiting restrictions are much clearer of parked vehicles. As I understand, the operatives are not yet issuing tickets in limited bays where people have overstayed their welcome, they are just ticketing safety issues and parking on yellow lines. Any changes to surface parking charges will be introduced shortly across the district on a rolling programme, so read the notices before taking a ticket, do not assume. On street residents' permits have yet to be finalised.

Scrutiny:

I am a member of the East Suffolk Scrutiny panel, as our meetings have commenced via Zoom, we are receiving presentations from different cabinet members and outside organisations. In June, our presentation was from Suffolk Police, who confirmed there is little County Lines activity in our patch, though there is some in Ipswich. The main problems with drugs in our area is from the local gangs, who have a strong presence. From Jan -Dec 2019, there were 200 arrests in connection with Class A drugs' possession. In November 2019, 'One Cop Stop' for schools was created, to educate & guide school students and reduce exploitation. In the period June 19-May 20, general crime has reduced by 12%. Suffolk is still below the national crime average. During lock down, there has been a spike in thefts of power tools from vehicles and of Sprinter vans. Detection rates in the East are 37%. I asked whether the police presence established in Bungay after a spate of anti social behaviour earlier in the year would be maintained and I was assured it would.

JC July 2020