

## District Councillor Report March 2021

During the last month , I have attended training sessions on the following topics :

Treasury Management, Civil Parking briefing, The Council as a Landlord and a briefing on the Nautilus Project – which is a project for the interface of energy with Belgium across the North Sea. It was a very interesting talk, though I am not sure I understood all of the technicalities, I think I need to read up on it a bit more.

The Scrutiny Committee, of which I am a member has also received a second report on the ESC response to the COVID pandemic.

There has been a Community Partnership meeting; I have also had a meeting of the Task & finish group, to consider how to spend the remaining £15,000 in the annual budget, the recommendations will go forward to our full CP meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> . We , as a Partnership also have approximately £2.5k to roll forward to a Small Grants programme for the next financial year. Also the CP Board meeting took place on Monday 1 March, we received an up-date from the Cabinet member for Communities, Letitia Smith about projects which each partnership had considered. There was a wide variety of causes which benefited from the funding available. I have also had a meeting with our Communities Officer, Stuart Halsey and a lady called Sarah Mortimer, from Community Action Suffolk, about 'Rural proofing' the Partnerships and we discussed a few ideas how we could encourage more of the wider parishes and their voluntary groups to apply for grants.

I have also participated in a meeting with Peter Aldous MP and the PCC, Tim Passmore about traffic issues and criminal behaviours in and around Bungay . It was a wide ranging conversation and the two leads have agreed once lock down is over , to come and observe the traffic issues – speeding and HGVs regularly using a 'rat run ' from the A145 to the A144 through many of the villages in the Ward.

I am pleased to report Bungay will soon have a rapid COVID testing station at the old Community Centre in Upper Olland Street, the service should start on 4 March. There have been some issues over staffing and it has been put back a couple of times, so fingers crossed . All of the equipment has been delivered, anyway.

Judy Cloke

2 March 2021