

February 2022 report

NWL

Although Chris Packham, Extinction Rebellion and others sent out a call and got about 300 people to attend a protest against the Norwich Western Link on Saturday 29th January, the petition in support of the new road link, started by Gary Blundell – Vice-Chair of Costessey Parish Council which desperately wants to stop the congestion and tailbacks of traffic through their village, had already been signed by 3500 people by the Friday evening, showing great support locally for the final link in that road.

SEND

The five year £120 million Special Educational Needs Development transformation programme to improve inclusion in mainstream schools and deliver 500 new places in three new special schools is on track. The Bure Park Specialist Academy opened in Gt Yarmouth in September, the Duke of Lancaster School opened in Fakenham in January and work is due to begin on the third school at Easton, which should be finished this year and open in Spring 2023. It will have capacity for 170 children, aged 4 – 19, with cognition and learning needs.

Health

Active Norfolk, which is based at Easton and works closely with the County Council to help provide ways in which local people of all ages can keep fit has launched a new website called Every Move which lists all the sports and health activities in Norfolk. Go to www.everymove.uk to see the wide range of activities run by sports clubs and informal activity groups across the county for children and adults.

Norfolk Strategic Flood Alliance

At a meeting on the first anniversary of the Norfolk Strategic Flood Alliance partnership work already done on the first 16 most seriously flooded sites was reported and a second tranche of eleven more sites to be examined was announced.

Digifest at libraries

During February local libraries will be hosting the Digifest 2022 which will give children aged 4 – 14 the chance to try digital technologies such as simple coding, creating a 3D work of art with a 3D pen or making a stop – motion film.

COVID

Although the Governments Plan B restrictions ended on January 27th our council buildings, museums, libraires etc are still recommending that visitors wear face coverings to help protect each other and staff.

I am happy to answer any questions or queries and hope to attend most of your meetings during the coming year.

Cllr. Margaret Dewsbury

Cabinet Member for Communities and Partnerships
Norfolk County Council: Hingham Division
South Norfolk Council: Easton Ward