

June 2016 report for the Thredling Division from Cllr Matthew Hicks

Proposed new heritage centre receives over £0.5million grant

Suffolk County Council's Record Office has received support and a grant of over £0.5 million from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) towards their proposals for a new heritage centre. The development funding of £538,100 has been awarded to help Suffolk County Council progress their plans to apply for a full grant of £10.3m at a later date. Located on the university's north campus, the new facility will house the bulk of Suffolk's nationally and internationally significant archives and a range of archaeological records. As well as providing teaching and research space fit for the 21st Century, it will also form a unique visitor attraction and an important cultural resource for the community. The project will drive a new way for the Record Office to extend and deliver its outreach work; a county-wide activity programme called "Mapping Suffolk's Stories" will see Record Office staff and UCS work alongside a wide range of community groups, volunteers and schools, engaging them with Suffolk's rich heritage in new and exciting ways, beginning with researching and digitising historic map collections. The Hold, which is one of the 21 key delivery projects of the 'Ipswich Vision', should open its doors in time for the 900th anniversary of the Record Office's oldest document, in 2019.

Extended weekend hours at Suffolk's Household Waste Recycling Centres

From Wednesday 1 June 2016, the opening hours at Suffolk's Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) has changed to offer site users extended hours on Sundays, Bank Holidays, and on a Thursday evening during the summer months, reflecting the times when the sites are most used and needed by residents. The busiest times of the week for these sites are the weekend and bank holidays. One of the quietest day of the week is consistently a Wednesday. As a result of this, all sites will be closed on a Wednesday.

The new opening times for Suffolk County Council's Household Waste Recycling Centres are as follows:

April - September

Monday	- 9am - 5pm
Tuesday	- 9am - 5pm
Wednesday	- Closed*
Thursday	- 9am - 5pm (open until 7pm during May - August)*
Friday	- 9am - 5pm
Saturday	- 9am - 5pm
Sunday	- 9am - 5pm*

October - March

Monday	- 9am - 4pm
Tuesday	- 9am - 4pm
Wednesday	- Closed
Thursday	- 9am - 4pm
Friday	- 9am - 4pm
Saturday	- 9am - 4pm
Sunday	- 9am - 4pm

*From 1 June 2016 All sites are closed 25, 26 December and 1 January

£10million of road surfacing work taking place during spring and summer 2016

Suffolk County Council is allocating £10million of additional investment from its reserves into 2016's programme of road surface dressing during the spring and summer months before September. This preventative maintenance work will help avoid potholes forming in future years on the roads that are treated by delivering approximately three million square metres of new surfacing; particularly focusing on rural roads across the county. This intensive programme of work equates to delivering three times the usual amount of new surface dressing, and is equivalent to dressing 500km of road surface. To put that in perspective, Suffolk has around 6500km of road network so this year's work will cover almost 10 per cent of the network. To carry out this work in the most effective manner, surface dressing will take place in the areas of the highest priority, based on the Council's recently adopted asset management approach to highway infrastructure. This surface dressing work can be affected by poor weather as the dressing materials need the right conditions to set correctly. Any programmed work that is unable to be completed during this summer will be carried over to next spring.

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