

SALC REPORT from Cll Liz Mark

From Salc area meeting on 16th September 2017

Transparency Code: All councils with income/expenditure under £25,000 per annum are subject to the new Transparency Code which compels parish councils to share all financial information and minutes of parish council meetings on a bespoke website. A special fund has been set up to allow councils to comply with this code. This finishes at the end of March 2018. Bawdsey Parish Council has had its own website since 2013 and complies with all aspects of the Transparency Code.

Local Plan Review- Issues and Options Consultation: 29,000 new houses are needed in the Suffolk Coastal area by 2036. The consultation document and other supporting information can be found through this link: <http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/planning/local-plans/suffolk-coastal-local-plan/local-plan-review/help-plan-the-future-of-the-district/> Options 5 and 6 in particular focus on the detail. Having a Neighbourhood Plan does not necessarily prevent unsuitable planning applications from going ahead. Consultation closes on 30th October.

New appointee to SCC Highways: Mark Stevens from Leicestershire has taken over Highways and has reorganised structures for the better. Kiers and Highways are working more closely now. Depots are now at Halesworth, (not Saxmundham), Rougham, and Ipswich. To report issues phone 0330 311 7839 (Customer services: 03456066171). Reporting issues online is also an option.

Cll Mark reported on the state of roads locally with excessive sand and mud on roads caused by larger agricultural vehicles. She also mentioned the state of many road signs which are illegible or hidden by greenery. Highways budgets have been cut and new road surfacing will have to take place when there is money to do so. Cll Mark also asked for a vehicle with a more efficient cutting blade to cut verges since it is very blunt and doesn't do a good job. Apparently contract workers have been doing this. Mr Stevens said he would look into it.

The next SALC meeting is at Stratford St Andrew on Monday 11th December at 7pm. Cll Mark would welcome a second councillor coming along to see what is going on in our area. The AGM of SALC is Tuesday 7th November.

Cll L Mark

19th September 2017