

## **March Report – Cllr Melissa Allen**

### **Civil Parking Enforcement starts across Suffolk on 6 April**

Following months of preparation for its rollout, the new CPE arrangements will start across Suffolk on the 6<sup>th</sup> April.

The new arrangement will provide a:

- Simplified tariff structure
- Better use of technology which utilises simple parking apps that allows easier payments and navigations to available parking spaces
- Free half hour for parking in many of East Suffolk Council's carpark where on-street parking opportunities are limited
- New parking administration system that will provide a view of where parking problems are occurring e.g. Schools at particular times of the day.

### **Suffolk to host final stage of The Women's Tour 2020!**

The world's top cyclists will return to Suffolk this June as the county hosts the final stage of The Women's Tour. The tour gets underway on Monday, 8th June in Oxfordshire and will finish in Felixstowe on Saturday, 13th June. The Suffolk stage will start in Haverhill before travelling almost 160km to finish at Felixstowe seafront. This is fantastic news for our area. More announcements will follow shortly.

### **Environment Task Group activities: New webpage launched!**

Since declaring a climate emergency in July 2019, the Council's Environment Task Group has been established and have been meeting quarterly to consider what actions need to be taken to meet the Council's challenging target of becoming carbon neutral by 2030.

As well as looking internally at what the Council can do to reduce its carbon emissions and improve its environmental performance, the task group have been looking at what can be delivered with partners and stakeholders to reduce carbon emissions across Suffolk to help the County of Suffolk become carbon neutral by the target date of 2030.

A new East Suffolk webpage has been created to share the Environment Task Group's aims, work to date and upcoming activities.

### **Refilling your weekly shop without unnecessary plastic is getting easier in Suffolk**

A number of shops in Suffolk are offering refills for a host of household items in a bid to cut down on the amount of plastic and packaging we use.

The Suffolk Waste Partnership has launched a handy online directory which lists the shops, businesses or charities that host refill points for items such as cleaning products, toiletries and dried foods, such as rice or oats and even loose-leaf tea and chocolate. Now there are 22 organisations which stock refills, but the partnership is encouraging other businesses to consider introducing similar schemes.

Residents can search their local area on the directory to find where their nearest refill point is. If any retailers or businesses would like to offer refill services and get listed on the online directory please contact [Waste.Management@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Waste.Management@suffolk.gov.uk).

### **Help your community become 'plastic clever'**

Volunteers are being asked to step forward to help their local community take a smart approach to plastic waste by joining a network of Plastic Action Champions.

The Plastic Action Champions scheme aims to encourage more people to learn about their environmental impact, take action to reduce their plastic waste and spread the word on environmental issues.

Volunteers are invited to attend a training session to join a network of Plastic Action

Champions across East Suffolk with four new sessions taking place at East Suffolk House, Melton and Riverside, Lowestoft starting later this month.

Those interested in becoming a Plastic Action Champion are invited to book a place at one of the following sessions (subject to demand):

- Tuesday 25 February – East Suffolk House, Melton (6-9pm)
- Monday 2 March – Riverside, Canning Road, Lowestoft (4.30-7pm)
- Wednesday 4 March – East Suffolk House, Melton (6-9pm)
- Monday 10 March – Riverside, Canning Road, Lowestoft (4.30-7pm)

Booking is essential and each session will go ahead subject to demand; to register your place, please email [greenissues@eastsoffolk.gov.uk](mailto:greenissues@eastsoffolk.gov.uk) or call 01394 444747.