Suffolk View

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Cover photographs:

Front: Suffolk East Coast Back: Southwold Pier





Representing the CPRE in Suffolk

Founded in 1929, the SPS Charitable Incorporated Organisation Number 1154806 is working to safeguard the buildings and landscape of Suffolk.

Foreword

SPS Director, Fiona Cairns, writes



Unintended consequences

The seventeenth century mathematician, Blaise Pascal, wrote in his *Pensées*, "In each action we must look beyond the action at our past, present, and future state, and at others whom it affects, and see the relations of all those things. And then we shall be very cautious."

And this fundamental truth is as pertinent in 2019 as it was in 1657 when written. The point is that much is at risk if we do not carefully consider the complex inter-relationship of what we do today, the implications for our past and consequences for our future. It is the consequences of our actions, and more precisely the unintended consequences of our actions, that pose the biggest threat.

A series of public consultation exercises have just concluded, and some of you will have been involved in responding to the Sizewell C third round of public consultations and/or the Scottish Power Renewables, East Anglia One (North) & Two wind farm proposals. These major energy schemes, if consented, will redefine many parts of the east of our County forever.

The arguments for these developments are well rehearsed: they present opportunities for clean, green energy and quite simply the nation needs them. On the other hand these

mega infrastructure projects are deeply damaging, extremely disruptive and at enormous environmental cost.

Hundreds of hours have been spent by many of you, alongside others in your local communities, poring over the details of these complex and gargantuan proposals. Issues ranging from traffic and noise to water-courses and natural habitats, air and light pollution, not to mention the somewhat poorly quantified losses to our cultural heritage have all been, to varying degrees, analysed and assessed.

As part of the Consultation Events developers have provided an array of leaflets, exhibition boards, and computer generated images (CGI) and models. Environmental reports running to thousands of pages have been drafted in support of their schemes. It is not in any doubt that the quantity of material supplied is matched only by the level of scrutiny by those who have an interest in these projects.

But despite this endeavour what concerns me are the unintended consequences that have not, and possibly cannot, be identified. It is no coincidence that according to the sociologist, R.K. Merton, the first two sources of unidentified consequences are ignorance and error followed by "the imperious immediacy of self-interest" - in other words, when someone wants something so badly they simply ignore any unintended effects. And so, however hard we push for complete disclosure, there will always be consequences that cannot be modelled, assessed or predicted, for whatever reason.

But what is really interesting is what Merton called the "self defeating prediction" where the public prediction of a social development proves false because the prediction changes the course of events. So instead of predicting what we don't want to come true, namely extremely damaging outcomes to some of our most fragile landscapes, this can be avoided if people act on these warnings and bring about changes to limit the negative impacts. Put simply, by working together can we minimise and mitigate the worst excesses and bring about better outcomes?

Perhaps if we continue to diligently work through the minefield of data, the studies, the reports and the mountain of developer submission, might there be a glimmer of hope? If the people's voice of reason is sufficiently loud, strong and sustained then perhaps the worst of the unintended consequences might just be avoided and the prediction defeated.

The SPS commends all those campaign groups such as *TEAGS* and *SASES* who are working so assiduously to grapple with the enormous volume of technical material, seeking to identify the omissions and the flaws in the developers' cases and challenge errors and inaccuracies. We at the SPS will continue to work alongside you in this epic battle that will play itself out in the coming months and years through the Development Consent Order process.

The recent consultations are just the side-show - the main event is still to come. This is a marathon not a sprint and the stamina of those involved will be tested in the months ahead. It's game on!



On a lighter note, 2019 is a special year for the SPS with its **90th Anniversary Celebrations** taking place in June at **Gt. Bevills, Bures,** courtesy of our new President, Geoffrey Probert: see Diary Dates on page 24. We look forward to welcoming you to what we hope will be an enjoyable and memorable occasion for Members and guests.

Comment

SPS Chairman, Andrew Fane, writes



SPS Chairman, Andrew Fane, OBE

Part of the enduring beauty of Suffolk derives from the fact that it doesn't lead anywhere - no motorways thundering through and onwards, no airports and one *InterCity* line that has the decency to stop for us as it moves on to Norfolk and gives us a real lifeline when we want it. Our relative isolation gives us tranquillity, darker skies, perhaps a slower pace of life but one that brought so many of us here and holds us content.

But in one vital respect much of that is about to change and very much for the worse. Suffolk will still not be on the way to anywhere, but vast snakes of electrical power will pass through our beloved county and surge on out to feed not our needs but those of much of the rest of southern Britain. And they will leave massive and towering footprints in some of our quietest and least spoilt countryside.

Power generation for the national need is the immediate challenge to our county, and not just Sizewell C which we are all relatively reconciled to. We accept the need for carbon-free power generation and we have coped with Sizewell A and B for many years. The new threat is the ever growing demand for North Sea wind-power and the Crown Estate continues to release vast blocks of the North Sea shelf for future energy generation. It is becoming blindingly obvious that most of this the 'snakes' I referred to - will come through our countryside. And they won't stop here; the power will plough on to London and the South East where the demand is greatest. And if the

threat could be restricted to massive cable burial we could cope and recover.

But the real threat is substations, and mainly on our spectacular coastal belt, right up against the AONB. They are unimaginably huge, (190 metres by 190 metres and 18 metres tall, so big we can't imagine them.) Think of that huge warehouse that has just sprung up beside the A14 at Haughley - who saw that coming into open countryside but there it is now - but these substations are many times larger, and the first is set for north of Friston off the Saxmundham Road. This is only the first of this scale, others will surely follow and once the landscape and its age-old tranquillity has been wrecked by the first then who will have the fight to stop its partners, all equally vast.

So we are at risk to lose so much and yet the benefits to Suffolk will be minimal. The power is for others, most of the jobs are for others, and the destruction will be left for us to stare at in horror for generations.

There is, of course, another way. SCC and the District Councils have called for all this harm to be congregated on the wider Sizewell site, on the basis that irreparable change already exists there, and we are staunch supporters of that approach. To date the providers don't find that solution attractive, so have rejected it but the campaign kicks off now.

We at SPS have made this one of our current primary concerns and are recruiting new skills to enable us to play a more effective part in resisting this ongoing threat.

Editor's note:

- 1. Friston is to host 2 Scottish Power Renewables substations to support their off shore wind farms East Anglia One North and East Anglia Two.
- 2. Each is to be around 36,100m2 ($190m \times 190m$ and up to 18m high).
- 3. In addition there will be a National Grid substation to accommodate the extra electricity produced this will be $140 \, \text{m} \times 325 \, \text{m}$ and $13 \, \text{m}$ high.
- 4. EA One North will have an operational capacity of 800MW powering 659,922 homes.
- 5. EA Two will have an operational capacity of 900MW powering 742,413 homes.

EA One substation under construction at Burstall Picture: 'ScottishPower' Renewables



AGM 2019

On another important note, I look forward to welcoming Members to our AGM in Lavenham on Friday, 7th June. It is important that we have your support, as membership gives the SPS its mandate to campaign on your behalf. Please come and hear what we have been doing, what we have achieved and our aims for the coming year. We in turn would like to hear your views too, so the Director and I, and my fellow Trustees look forward to meeting you there.

SPS - 90th Anniversary Celebration

A Manifesto for Suffolk

As part of our special celebration we have reassessed our commitment to Suffolk – what we do, how we approach it, why we continue to strive in a difficult planning climate, and how we examine outcomes. As a result of this we have produced A Manifesto for Suffolk which sets out our background, our achievements and our aims for the future.

At our Anniversary Celebration Party every Member present will receive a hard copy of this attractively produced Manifesto so that they can be reassured of our commitment to Suffolk.

We want you, our Members, to use it to attract new people who, perhaps, have not heard of the SPS and the important work it does. As a professional organisation and an independent Suffolk charity that attracts its own funding, we support our Members and like-minded organisations that care for our unique environment - its towns and villages, its beautiful countryside and coastline - in a proactive way. We need to be ready for the challenges and the opportunities that the future will bring. Together we can retain the best of Suffolk while caring for what we hand to the next generation; our mandate is in your support.

See Diary Dates on page 24 for details of our Anniversary Celebration.

#Suffolk Beauty Photographic Competition

In the last issue of Suffolk View we announced our second #Suffolk Beauty competition to invite keen photographers to send in their images of captivating modern architecture. Suffolk is facing unprecedented levels of new housing and we were hoping for images of fresh and excitingly designed homes. While we received some strong images they were nearly all commercial or public buildings with sadly very few housing schemes. So is modern architecture for iconic buildings rather than homes? For many this is a subjective area but one that needs further consideration.

Throughout the countryside badly designed new development is leaching the distinctiveness and identity from our rural areas. For too long we have been prepared to let standards decline to the detriment of environmental quality. How many of us can say with confidence that we are proud of the stock of new buildings we are handing to future generations?

Compared with our first #Suffolk Beauty competition which asked for beautiful pictures of Suffolk, and which attracted over one hundred entrants, this one managed just six, insufficient for a meaningful competition on this occasion. How should we judge this, was it a difficult or unattractive subject, were there too few examples to move the spirit, or are modern buildings not what you consider capable of bringing beauty to our County? Please let us know what you think and to those who did respond, thank you.



Bildeston - Ron Hoy



Fynn Valley Golf Club - Jenny Holmes



The Arc, Bury St. Edmunds - John Thompson

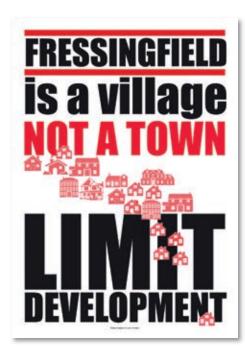




The Fight for Fressingfield

A campaign to reject the over-development of a village

Chairman of SAFE, John Castro, writes





Introduction

Fressingfield is a small village close to the Suffolk/Norfolk border with about 350 houses in the centre of the village and a total population of just over 1000. It is primarily agricultural with only 64 full-time equivalent jobs. In early 2017 Mid Suffolk District Council published its SHELAA (Strategic Housing & Employment Land Availability Assessment) document which identified significant parcels of land in our village for potential major developments. In February two "hybrid" schemes, including 50 houses, were approved. A month later planning approval was sought for three sites totalling 208 houses with an additional 584 residents. At this stage we decided to become active. SAFE (Supporters Against Fressingfield Expansion) was formed, with a small committee and developed into a lobbying group. Our aim was to 'limit major development in Fressingfield'.

Actions

We arranged a scientifically sound petition, visiting every house in the central area of the village and found 94 per cent of villagers were against major developments. This gave us a mandate to speak for the village. It was apparent that residents were unaware of what was happening so we

arranged for distribution of posters and subsequently set up our own website https://fressingfieldhousing.org/ This was to inform both residents and decisionmakers. We instigated public meetings and wrote to specialist departments at District and County Council level, including Highways, Planning and Anglian Water. We reviewed important policy documents as they became available and made comment to the appropriate authorities, as well as publicising these on the website. SAFE was involved in both writing and organizing lobbying papers to be sent to District Council planning committee

members. These papers deal with single aspects of infrastructure and their impact on village life. We met with the senior planning officer and discussed the issues of concern to the villagers and the lack of sustainability.

Areas of Concern

When the planning applications were submitted a very significant number of objections were raised by villagers of their own volition and in their own words. These highlighted the problems in the village which would be aggravated by more development, for example the overloading of the primary school







and surgery, (although these are not planning considerations); the fact that there was one bus a week and the lack of local employment. There were several major problems which we were able to publicise and provide objective information.

Traffic and road safety has been a cause of great concern for many years. Many areas do not have footways, including New Street where the shop, medical centre, scout hut and Methodist Chapel are located. New Street leads to a complex junction - Jubilee Corner. More development results in more cars, particularly as there is a lack of local employment and no secondary school in the village. A projected 57 per cent increase in vehicular and pedestrian traffic in these circumstances would lead to an *'unacceptable impact on highway* safety'. The revised NPPF cites this as a reason for refusal. There is a long standing, poorly documented problem with surface water flooding in Low Road which is at the bottom of four steep slopes. Residents testify to flooding going back to the 1960s. There has also been a serious problem with the

rainfall, causing raw sewage to enter the roadway and residents' gardens. This is a public health hazard and is getting worse. We have corresponded with the Suffolk Director of Public Health and met with Anglian Water who told us that the situation cannot be rectified. More development would worsen the situation.

Heritage aspects were also important. The proposed urban developments would be out-of-scale and alien in character. Fressingfield is a small village set in a hollow dominated by its ancient Grade I listed church. There are 444 houses in the Fressingfield Parish of which 58 are listed. There are also many unlisted ancient houses. The Suffolk Preservation Society robustly objected to all three schemes on the grounds that Fressingfield was a deeply unsustainable location. Both Historic England and Suffolk Archaeology expressed reservations about some developments.

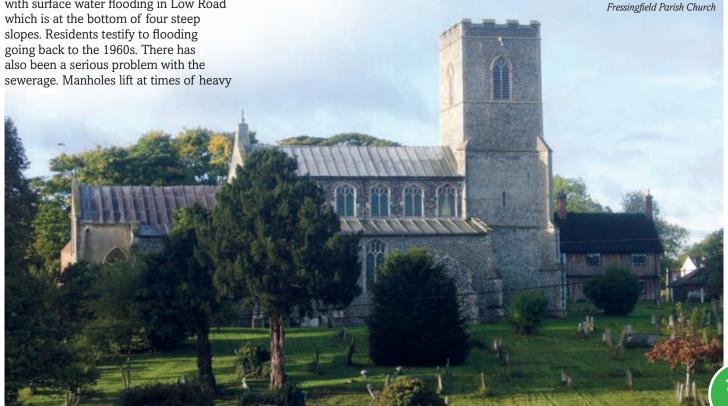
The Outcome

The senior planning officer's report recommended refusal of all three planning applications. The applications had been taken to Committee on 21st November 2018 and, after debate and an open vote, all three were unanimously rejected on grounds of —

- 1. an unsustainable location,
- 2. exacerbation of flooding with the egress of sewage, and
- 3. highways impact.

Epilogue

The aims of *SAFE* have been to express and publicise the views of the village in a polite and objective way and to clearly state the facts, without bias or emotion. It was important to maintain the support of the village and the success of this approach was manifest by more than 60 people journeying to Ipswich for a 9.00am Planning Committee hearing.



Planning, Conservation and Heritage Overview

Update and comment SPS Planner, Bethany Philbedge, writes

All SPS letters are available in full on its website.

SUFFOLK'S ENERGY GENERATION

Suffolk's coastal area is a focus for nuclear and wind power energy projects to support the nation's current and future energy requirements. SPS aims to minimise the impacts of these vast schemes through our position on the Heritage Expert Topic Group for wind farm schemes; through our role on the AONB Partnership and through frequent contact and support of community groups such as Theberton Eastbridge Action Group -TEAGS and Sub-station Action Save East Suffolk - SASES. Sizewell C nuclear power station and the East Anglia One (North) and East Anglia Two offshore windfarms have all recently been out for a further round of public consultation. SPS absorbed and interpreted the vast amounts of documentation which accompanies such large energy proposals and have submitted our responses. In relation to both the wind power and nuclear projects we have raised serious concerns over their impact on the Heritage Coast, the AONB's special qualities and local communities. We have also continued to object to the siting of three large substations to support the windfarms close to the village of Friston. Scottish Power Renewables are expected to submit a Development Consent Order

application for the two windfarms at the end of 2019 whereas EDF is aiming to submit its application for two new reactors at Sizewell in 2020.

SPS has also learned that in January National Grid recommended that the previously

paused Bramford to Twinstead new 400kV overhead power line project should proceed. It is now required to support future energy generation and a connection date of 2026 is anticipated.



To begin on a positive note Natural England has forwarded its proposals to extend the Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB to include land to the south of the River Stour in Essex and areas of the Shotley Peninsula to the Secretary of State for approval. Moreover, the Government has announced its commitment to conserve and enhance England's most cherished landscapes through a review into the nation's National Parks and AONBs. Nearly 70

Objections to Dedham Vale AONB fruit company expansion overruled



years after they were first established, the review aims to ensure these designated landscapes are fit for the future. An independent panel led by Julian Glover is looking at how these landscapes meet the needs of the 21st century – including whether there is scope for the current network of 34 AONBs to expand. SPS has contributed its views on the challenges and qualities of the two Suffolk AONBs via a meeting with Dame Fiona Reynolds, who sits on the panel.

But to what end AONB designation if the decision-makers do not take its implication seriously? Aside from the future pressures on the AONB landscape from the national energy projects of Sizewell C and off-shore windfarms, there have been some disappointing decisions taken at the local authority level. Approval



"See how we've adapted to the situation to ensure tourism continues in East Suffolk."



Example from the guide 'Selection and Use of Colour in the Suffolk AONBs'

has recently been granted in AONB locations for 70 new homes next to St. Felix School in Reydon and a 15 metre high warehouse at Hill Farm, Polstead. Objections were made by SPS, the Dedham Vale Society, local communities and the AONB Partnership but the weight given by the planners to the adverse impact of cumulative small detrimental changes on the AONB was, we considered, inadequate. Local authorities must fully recognise the importance of their special landscapes and with this in mind we have urged for there to be a separate AONB policy within the Suffolk Coastal Local Plan as part of our consultation response on their Final Draft.

DESIGN

SPS continues to contribute ideas to the new Suffolk Design Guide project (www.suffolkdesign.com). The guide aims to ensure that new developments in the county contribute to Suffolk's unique identity and ensure it remains the attractive and successful place we all love. The online resource will guide and support developers across Suffolk to hopefully improve the design, layout and landscaping of future developments so that they sit better in our county's landscape, towns and villages. Meanwhile, the AONB Partnership commissioned a fascinating guide to the Selection and Use of Colour in the Suffolk Coast and Heaths and Dedham Vale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Launched in January, these are now available to architects, planners and developers and will hopefully encourage new development to be informed by the natural hues and tones of Suffolk's most prized landscapes.

TRAFFIC AND THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

We have previously highlighted SPS's concern over the impact of increasing traffic on Suffolk's historic streets. More often than not these are unable to cope with the quantity and size of vehicles which struggle through our towns and villages. We have highlighted housing applications which had been taken to appeal in Woolpit and Boxford which would result in increased traffic through the medieval cores of the villages. We argued that increased traffic not only impacts safety and congestion but also harms the character of the historic village. The Planning Inspectorate has now resolved to allow the Woolpit scheme but dismissed the Boxford application.

Give way to oncoming vehicles

In both cases however the decision centred on highway safety and traffic flow rather than the character of the historic environment. So whilst we, and communities, welcome schemes which address safety, speed and congestion SPS remains disappointed at the scant regard given to the historic character of our towns and villages by developers and decision makers when it comes to traffic. Suffolk Highways in particular seems to pay little attention to the historic environment when installing signage and bollards. The recent installation in Water Street in Lavenham is a case in point and we hope that, should this become a long term solution, more appropriate street furniture that follows Historic England guidelines is installed.



SUPPORTING THE HIGH STREET

The Government has consulted on planning reforms which it claims will support our changing high streets. They propose to extend permitted development rights to allow changes of use of retail premises to office or residential use. In addition permitted development rights would allow the extension of existing buildings upwards to create additional homes. The Government claims that this will speed up the delivery of new homes, but concerns have been raised about the impact on the character of historic town centres and the quality of conversions and extensions which will not have to be scrutinised via the planning permission process.

REDEVELOPMENT OF BABERGH AND MID SUFFOLK COUNCIL OFFICES

SPS was consulted on the redevelopment of these sites in Hadleigh and Needham Market following the move of both District Councils to Endeavour House in



Ipswich. Fifty-seven dwellings are planned for the former Babergh Council Offices site in Hadleigh and whilst we welcome the re-use of this site aspects of the scheme including the demolition of Bridge House, which contributes positively to the Hadleigh Conservation Area, cause concern. We highlighted this to the Ancient Monuments Society who subsequently submitted a holding objection. SPS also raised a number of concerns over the Needham Market scheme which is for 106 dwellings on the Mid Suffolk offices site. We feel that a lack of open space and trees will ultimately impact the success of the scheme and is clearly a result of a drive to maximise the economic return on the

FISONS

The Northern Warehouse at Bramford is Suffolk's largest listed building and was in the Victorian Society's Top 10 Buildings as Risk list in 2017. Following Mid Suffolk District Council's failed bid for Government funding to unlock this stalled major housing site the Council has successfully obtained a court order to 'execute such works as may be necessary to obviate the danger to the public and prevent further deterioration'. SPS has previously supported local campaigners looking to halt the deterioration of the building and looks forward to seeing remedial works carried out to safeguard the future of this important piece of Suffolk's heritage.



Quote of the Issue

"We should not forget that the beauty of this island – of its towns and villages as well as its landscape – was inscribed in the hearts of those who fought the two world wars. When asked what attaches them to their country, the British people regularly refer to its beauty, and it would be a foolish politician who dismissed this sentiment as merely nostalgic."

"The question, it seems to me, is not about the great works of architecture, whether old or new, but about the place of beauty in everyday building. It concerns the 'aesthetics of the everyday' – how to get things right, so that the people of this country will welcome new building as an addition to their heritage, and not a necessity that they must merely tolerate."

December 2018

Professor Sir Roger Scruton, Philosopher and Writer – recently appointed to the Commission for Beauty – see page 14.

County Courier

News and issues from the districts, amenity societies and members

Borough of St Edmundsbury

Report by Roderick Rees, Bury Society

Bury St Edmunds town centre has been the focus of several controversial applications, including the redevelopment of the empty Cornhill Walk precinct (behind Moyes Hall) with almost 18,000 sq. ft. of retail space and 49 flats. The plans raised concern because of the scale of development and the failure of the design to reflect a local context. Also, many townspeople are sceptical about the viability of largish retail units at this location. There was concern about the redevelopment of the former Health Centre on Looms Lane with flats and offices because of the over-bearing bulk and monolithic appearance of the proposed building and it appears the applicant is questioning the normal rules in respect of affordable homes. There were strong objections to plans for 16 flats (four underground) on St Andrews Street South between Neptune and Denny's because of over-development and because of its faux classical appearance. Less controversially, plans are being considered for the redevelopment of the burnt-out Cycle King premises on Angel Hill with a replacement shop and four flats above.

Meanwhile, building work has started on 135 private apartments on Station Hill and the affordable homes at the former Lucky Break premises on Tayfen Road. Also, the new Travelodge and Starbucks on Etna Road are well under way despite very real concerns about road safety and detailed design. Looking to the future, the town is eagerly anticipating plans to redevelop the former Ashton solicitors' offices on Guildhall Street – but there is no news yet regarding the Magistrates Court on Honey Hill. Further ahead, the Council hopes to move forward its plans for a Business Hub on Western Way which might involve relocating the Leisure Centre.

The Bury Water Meadows Group has established the first new public green space and right of way alongside the

River Lark at the back of Fornham Road between Tesco's (just after the A14 underpass) and the Tollgate. Soon, we should also see the first tangible result of the *Town Centre Master Plan* with the final designs for the empty Post Office on the Buttermarket, which will, hopefully, finally address the problem of the link between the old town and the Arc shopping centre. The Town is also optimistic about possible plans by Greater Anglia for a new car park at the Railway Station together with vital repairs to the station master's house and the north building, now that Milkmaid has relinquished its lease.

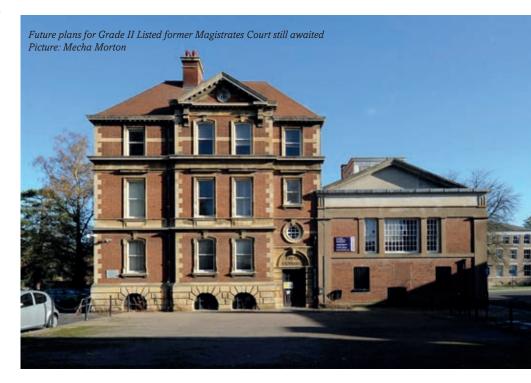
Finally, the Abbey of St. Edmundsbury Partnership arranged a well-attended conference last month in the Cathedral at which the Borough Council, the Cathedral, the Bury Society and other various interested parties presented a Heritage Assessment and Conservation Plan for the Abbey of St. Edmund, titled Past, Present and Future. Next year's millennium celebrations of the founding of the Abbey in 1020 will no doubt be putting Bury St. Edmunds in a good position to attract tourists and pilgrims - and perhaps clear up the mystery as to whether St. Edmund really is buried below the Abbey Gardens tennis courts.

Babergh & Mid Suffolk Districts

Report by Phil Butler, SPS Mid Suffolk

In the last edition I was hoping that I would not, again, need to touch upon the necessity for either Babergh or Mid Suffolk District Councils' (B/ MSDC) to have a five-year land supply in place to meet their respective housing targets. However, shortly after a media announcement about the claimed housing supply numbers it emerged that, in fact, they could not adequately defend their position in line with the new National Planning Policy Framework requirements. This was brought to light when the appeal against MSDC's decision to refuse permission for 49 homes in Woolpit was upheld, with the Inspector ruling that the District Council could not demonstrate it had a five-year housing supply - despite it believing it had just a few weeks earlier.

Since then officers at MSDC have been collecting the necessary details of forthcoming development and have announced that they have a confirmed 5 year housing supply - just. At only 43 homes above the threshold, we hope that this figure bears scrutiny from developers.



Any lack of certainty on the existing planning polices is one of the reasons why both the Director, Fiona Cairns and Planner, Bethany Philbedge appear to spend a good proportion of their time reviewing our districts' planning applications - we must be grateful for their continued vigilance.

During the past four months SPS has submitted comments or objections in relation to: 250 dwellings, Ixworth Road, Thurston; 149 dwellings on a disused chicken plant adjacent to Haughley Park; 300 dwellings in Woolpit; a further 70 dwellings proposed in Stowupland; 32 dwellings at Great Finborough; and 20 dwellings in Hoxne, as well as making numerous other representations to smaller but nevertheless potentially harmful or unacceptable proposals. This has included commenting on the redevelopments at the former council offices in Needham Market and Hadleigh as well as the alterations to the Cedars Hotel in Stowmarket.

Such focused representations by SPS continue to result in a number of successful outcomes with applications such as Poplar Hill, Stowmarket for 160 dwellings, 218 dwellings in Fressingfield and in Mendlesham 8 dwellings on a site designated as a *visually important open space* in the adopted Neighbourhood Plan, all being refused permission, and some other applications being withdrawn for further consideration.

Sudbury – Park plans further explained

Babergh District Council (BDC) has published a factsheet giving more details regarding its proposals for Belle Vue Park which include a hotel and restaurant. It aims to transform part of the site, including the former derelict swimming pool, with no net loss of amenities. The potential area for

development also includes land where the aviaries stood, the existing toilet block, a former boiler house and diesel tank, Belle Vue House car park and a small children's play area. BDC has assured residents that the greater part of the green area of the park will be unaffected by the scheme which will be built on mainly derelict land where the old swimming pool was sited. This is seen by BDC as a regeneration scheme for Sudbury retaining a green space while delivering jobs and supporting tourism. The scheme was presented last year as part of the Sudbury Vision for Prosperity document but residents had been very concerned at the possible loss of green space and amenity.



Belle Vue Park – possible development area in yellow Picture: google maps

Waveney District

Report by Jessica de Grazia, SPS Trustee

Despite its surface prosperity, Southwold is a struggling community overwhelmed by a tsunami of second homes – 60 per cent of dwellings, the highest percentage in England and Wales. Not surprisingly, given the low wage tourism economy of the area, its land value earnings ratio is double that of London. This combination is taking a toll on the town, 70 per cent of which is covered by the Conservation Area. The character of Ferry Road is being changed irretrievably as eccentric single-storey buildings are demolished and replaced by two-storey buildings, which are eliminating the gaps





The swimming pool at
Belle Vue – photograph
believed to be from the late
1960s showing both the
main pool and the paddling
pool beyond. The pool was
opened in 1929 to replace
the Old Bathing Place at
The Croft and it in turn was
replaced by the pool at the
Kingfisher Leisure Centre.
Picture: Sudbury
Museum Trust

between buildings and the views of the Town Marches and Harbour. Residents of Southwold and Reydon have been vociferous in their denunciations of a new development at the entrance to the town, Lords Terrace, and not without reason. Its tale illustrates the single greatest weakness of our planning system – lack of capacity in design, and an underresourced agency, where mistakes build upon mistakes. The site was the old Southwold Service Station. The 'original sin' was a planning permission for a dense apartment block design in a faux alpine village style, with an underground garage. The developer became broke after digging the foundations. Several years later, a new developer bought the site his first set of plans went to the Design Council which recommended, among other things, more greening. (This did not happen.) To their credit, Waveney's design and conservation team cajoled and encouraged to improve the plans, but they were hampered by the existence of

the first planning permission. Today, the new development is an undifferentiated and over-bearing barrack-like terrace, which does not reflect Southwold's built character of small-scale buildings with a variety of materials and rooflines. The town's Neighbourhood Plan (which is likely to be adopted by the end of this year) should, in theory, prevent future developments of this nature, but whether theory translates into practice depends on building up the capacity of the local planning authority.

Suffolk Coastal District

Questions have been raised about the influence of developers in shaping controversial proposals for a 'garden neighbourhood' to include 800 homes, a primary school and employment space built to the south of Saxmundham. The 800-home development plays an integral

role in Suffolk Coastal District Council's proposed Local Plan; a 15-year strategy for housing, jobs and infrastructure.

The Plan, which has completed its final consultation, should be developed in partnership with communities, but people in Saxmundham claim their views have been overruled, resulting in sites many say are unsuitable. 'Garden neighbourhoods' are meant to provide balanced, sustainable developments with affordable housing, efficient transport and green spaces.

But opponents say SCDC's selected site, which is to the south of the town, between the A12 and the East Suffolk rail line is too small for 800 homes and, by the Council's own assessments, faces challenges around road access.

Pigeon Capital Management 2 Ltd, representing owners of part of the garden neighbourhood site, has submitted its own 'Concept Masterplan', which is claimed to be very similar to SCDC's which was for 800-homes and a primary school to be built over a much larger site. However, campaigners LTLA 'Leave The Layers Alone' objected when around 225 of the homes were earmarked for the historic landscape area known as The Layers, a unique green space between Saxmundham and Benhall which had, for centuries, played a vital role for the town, initially as a place to lay up stock before market, as a venue for the Suffolk Show, and latterly as an open space of beauty and recreation for all people nearby. The proposals were revised, with development shifted west of the railway line to preserve this land.

SPS, the Suffolk Wildlife Trust, Historic England, Benhall & Sternfield Parish Council and Hopkins Homes have all raised site concerns.



Southwold: small scale property of differing heights using a variety of local building materials



From the News-stand

Copy and comment

Raynsford's Radical Reform?

The Rt. Hon. Nick Raynsford, former housing Minister, published at the end of 2018 his landmark review of the English planning system, the Raynsford Review, commissioned by the Town & Country Planning Association. Its remit was to identify the kind of planning system that England would need from 2020. It warned that planning has been reduced to providing 'extremely poor quality' development. He wanted an effective and fair system and set out seven immediate actions. This wide-ranging document proposed a new legal purpose for the system and wanted to reinforce democratic and community control of development. Local plans needed to be made more powerful, and only deviated from in 'exceptional' circumstances. It urged a duty on Councils to ensure that local people could access information, receive the right to participate and the right to challenge which it says they needed to shape planning decisions which affected them. Also, the Report wanted a more simplified planning system (to include neighbourhood, local, regional and national) which also ensured that the public enjoyed a bigger slice of the benefits generated by development. Raynsford warned that planners were facing pressures to act in ways that pose serious questions about compatibility with the Royal Town Planning Institute code of professional conduct, and urged that their professional duty to deliver public benefit should be reinforced.

Will this Report's proposals be practically and politically deliverable or destined to disappear? https://www.tcpa.org.uk/Handlers/Download.ashx?IDMF=4d3a0d09-ef36-4cbb-a032-0671b7221069

Editor's note: The Government confirmed its proposed revisions to the NPPF in February 2019. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/779764/NPPF_Feb_2019_web.pdf

'Building More, Building Beautiful'

A Commission to champion beautiful buildings as an integral part of the drive to build the homes required was announced at the end of the year by the Communities Secretary, Rt. Hon. James Brokenshire MP. Its task was to develop a vision and practical measures to help ensure new developments meet the needs and expectations of communities, making them more acceptable.

The Government's recent rewriting of the planning rulebook to strengthen expectations for design quality and community engagement has led to consideration being given to building new homes *in character and scale* with their local surroundings.

This Commission will take that work further by expanding on the ways in which the planning system can place greater emphasis on design, style and community consent, and the importance of beauty in the built environment.

Editor's note: Professor Sir Roger Scruton was appointed Chairman of the above Commission, one of four supported by an advisory board. The Commission will submit a report by the end of this year: see *Quote of the Issue*, page 10.

Neighbourhood Plan Eye-Opener?

Are neighbourhood plans a proven method of significantly increasing housing allocations as envisaged by Government – it seems not. The latest research showed 60 per cent of neighbourhood plans do not contain a housing figure or site allocation suggesting that local communities are placing greater emphasis on other planning issues, such as protecting local infrastructure, green space and services. Research also showed of the 330 neighbourhood plans completed at the end of the year 15 boosted their Local Plan housing allocation by an average of three per cent.

The Planner magazine



"He's sulking because no-one is including housing figures in the Neighbourhood Plans."

Scottish Power Renewables' East Anglia Two - Councils joined forces to try to protect rural countryside.

Towards the end of last year Suffolk County Council, Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils took the unprecedented step to join forces to voice their concern that Scottish Power Renewables (SPR) had not been listening to the concerns of local people over the siting of its off-shore grid connection substation. SPR's preferred site, consisting of a land-take of 30 acres at Grove Wood, Friston (see pages 9 and 12 of Suffolk View, Issue 132), would have the greater visual impact. The SPS view was that although the Sizewell area option was in the AONB the proposed sub-station would have less impact adjacent to established existing builds than if it were in virgin countryside. A landscape and visual impact assessment of both sites was requested, but the preferred position of SPR remains that of the sensitive Friston landscape, outside the AONB. A recent emerging view considers that Sizewell C could be bad news for the environment and the UK's economy. People in East Suffolk are concerned about the development impact on this sensitive area plus the inadequacy of the road and rail network let alone the impact of thousands of workers for a decade in a prime tourist area. Meanwhile, the SPS continues to work with the various groups involved to find a way through but this is a 'tough mudder' whichever way one looks at it. A clearer steer from Government regarding the implications of national infrastructure is wanting.

See *Foreword* on page 3 and *Comment* on page 4.

Food and Farming Foresight

The object of the CPRE Food and Farming Foresight series is to produce evidence-based research papers that support innovative policy solutions to critical food and farming issues. This third in the series, Back to the land: rethinking our approach to soil, is a call to action to strengthen and safeguard our natural assets while delivering the needs of society that so depends upon them. https://www.cpre.org.uk/resources/farmingandfood/farming/item/download/5644



"These are surplus to requirements in the Box Valley so I acquired one for us to train the honeysuckle up."

Stage one secured for £1m investment in Dedham Vale AONB

Over £1m has been earmarked for undergrounding low voltage power cables in the Box Valley, in the Dedham Vale AONB. The funding has been secured and work will now be undertaken to formalise, in principle, the agreements with landowners and undertake the necessary ecological and archaeological assessments before the work can start.

Pier pressure

A step away from the north Suffolk coastal border a unique building is waiting to be brought back to life. On



"She claims that when she went in she was in Torquay!"

Historic England's Heritage at Risk register this seaside gem, Listed Grade II*, and dating from 1878, is the last surviving Victorian winter gardens in England. Built between 1878 and 1881 by John Watson and William Harvey at a cost of £12,783 it was relocated from Torquay to Great Yarmouth in 1904. The Winter Gardens was not a commercial success in Torquay, but Greater Yarmouth Borough Council considered that its removal to Yarmouth would be desirable "to lengthen the season with better class visitors and on wet days to provide for 2,000 persons under cover". The building was dismantled in sections, and transported by barge to Norfolk and re-erected by the entrance to Wellington Pier. A campaign has been launched to revive the crumbling tourist attraction as it is listed as one of the top ten endangered Victorian and Edwardian buildings by the Victorian Society.

Historic England's new List

While Suffolk does not have entrants this time around a former lifeboat house in Essex, the thatched cricket pavilion of Uppingham School, two Rolls Royce testing hangars in Nottingham, and a thatched memorial bus shelter in Dorset are among the latest buildings to be Listed Grade II. A remarkable pedestrian subway in South London resembling something out of Moorish Spain, built in 1865 to link a railway station to the entrance of the former Crystal Palace, and currently on the Heritage at Risk register, has been upgraded to Grade II*. These are

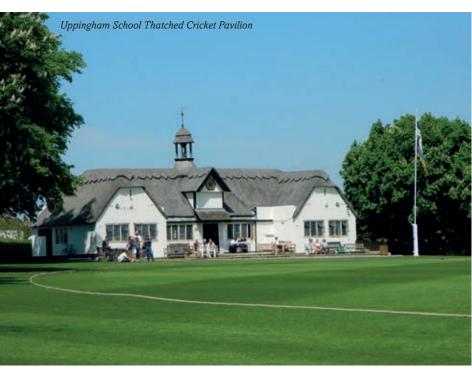
among the 900 buildings and sites Listed in 2018 by Historic England. Each is remarkable – take a look. https://historicengland.org.uk/whats-new/ listing/

Thumbs ups for new status

After lobbying for more than 10 years, Kelsale-cum-Carlton has been given Conservation Area status to protect and enhance its character and local distinctiveness. Among some of the key elements are the Grade1 Listed medieval parish church, high status timber framed structures and a classical Methodist chapel. The designation means that East Suffolk now has 52 Conservation Areas.

Editor's note: Melton, Earl Soham, Peasenhall & Sibton, Westleton & Orford Conservation Areas have undergone recent boundary reviews.





Heritage matters

Quality of Place Awards 2018

The Awards were introduced in 2010 to recognize and encourage an interest in the quality of the built and natural environment of the Suffolk Coastal District. They have since become an established celebration.

The aim to promote an awareness of the need for high standards in all forms of design, including planning, architecture, and sustainable development including landscaping and community involvement had, again, in 2018, produced commendable results.

The panel of judges - Councillor Tony Fryatt, Cabinet Member for Planning as Chairman Judge; Bob Kindred MBE,

Heritage Consultant and Trustee of the Suffolk Preservation Society, as Conservation Award Judge;

Patricia Shepherd, Director of Architects Two Ltd. as Landscape Expert Judge; Jan Garfield, Chairman of the Planning Committee of the Felixstowe Society as Amenity Society Judge; and John Lamont, local Architect and member of RIBA East as Design Expert - met to consider the schemes and compile a shortlist.

The Conservation Award is for works to buildings of local or historic interest undertaken with particular attention to the quality of conservation. The projects which help to preserve and enhance the character of such buildings and their settings, and those demonstrating inventiveness and which provide a new lease of life for a previously run-down building are keenly considered.

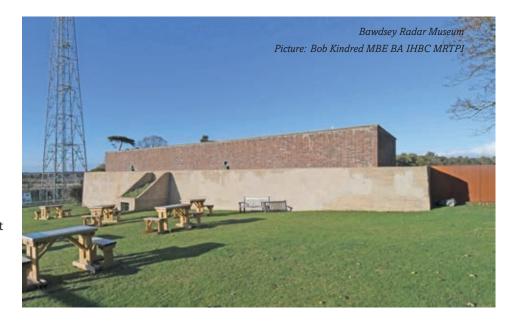
There were two joint winners, in this category, the World War II Bawdsey Radar Transmitter Block, Listed Grade II* and recently converted to a museum for the Bawdsey Radar Trust by Freeland Rees Roberts Architects of Cambridge; and the restoration of Sibton Park Gate Lodge, Listed Grade II, by Argus Hardy, Heveningham Estate Architect.

Bawdsey Radar Museum - the submission

The Transmitter Block at Bawdsey is Grade II* listed and one of several structures on the former RAF Bawdsey site that formed the first operational radar station in the world, playing a vital role in the defence of Britain during World War II.

First completed in 1939, the brickfaced block housed electronic equipment that sent the radar signal out through four 100m tall masts, the massive concrete bases of which are still visible. The building fell into disuse in the 1970s and steady deterioration led to it being placed on the 'Buildings at Risk Register'. Freeland Rees Roberts Architects was appointed in March 2014 and, with assistance from the Heritage Lottery Fund and Historic England, the building has now been completely restored. Inside a new interactive exhibition tracing the history of radar was opened to the public in September 2017.

Extensive repairs were needed to the surrounding concrete blast walls using advanced techniques that will prevent further corrosion of the reinforcement. After careful patching and cleaning, the whole surface was coated with a clear microporous coating that reveals the colour and board-marked finish of the original concrete. This was followed by reinstatement of the earth revetments on two sides (the other blast walls have been left exposed). The flat concrete roof was completely removed and then



replaced with a layer of insulation and a new waterproof membrane. A brick incinerator chimney, thought to date from the Cold War, was in poor condition and rebuilt in matching materials.

A new prefabricated lavatory block for visitors was clad in Corten steel and lowered into position between two of the blast walls; the air source heat pump has a similar enclosure. Internal and external decorations have been carefully matched to the original colours, leaving some of the original finishes and fittings visible.

A new exhibition has been installed by PLB telling the fascinating story of radar in all its detail and the building has now been re-opened to the public.

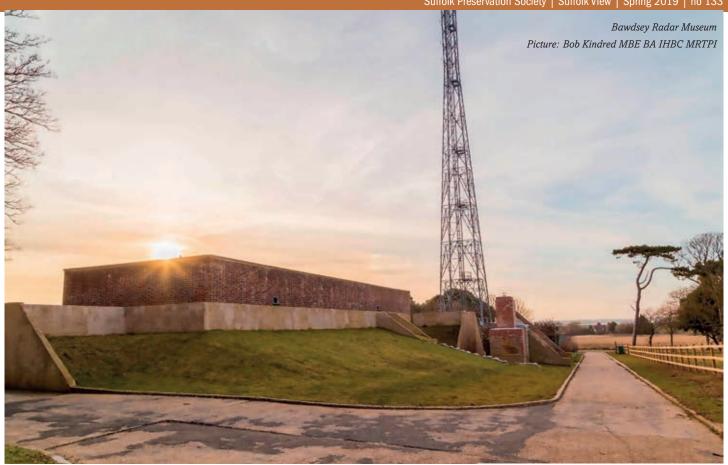
Judging analysis by Bob Kindred

The assessors commended the work done

at Bawdsey which demonstrates what can be achieved by vision and perseverance on a project triumphantly realised after 15 years of hard work by the dedicated volunteers of the Bawdsey Radar Trust.

Bawdsey performs a very important and perhaps under-regarded part in the nation's history for the crucial part it played in the winning of the Second World War. In the post-war era this vital role was for a long time overlooked and with technological and military advances elsewhere, the radar block, part of a wider military installation, fell into a long period of neglect and was inaccessible to the public.

In the urgency of wartime the building was erected with haste and expediency and certainly with no thought for posterity. The rapid and rudimentary but







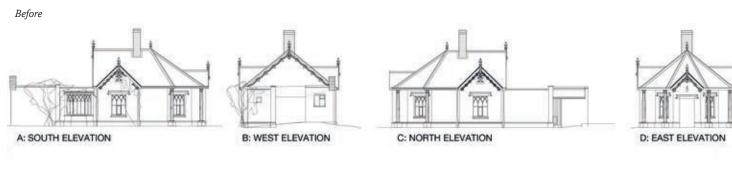


robust construction posed significant issues for the Trust as a result of the use of steel reinforced concrete for the outer blast walls. This required exposure and treatment of the metal rods and the repair and re-facing of the concrete as seamlessly as possible – not an easy task but one that has been completed with success. Equally problematic for the team was the leaking shingle and sand-filled deep flat roof added to protect the accommodation from aerial bombing. Its repair was essential before the internal refurbishment works could be commenced.

In converting the building to a museum, the assessors were impressed by the approach to the interpretation of the site and choice of exhibits, but also by the high standard of the facilities including the understated and architecturally well-judged introduction of new heating and lighting services and other facilities.

The assessors therefore considered that as the home of the birthplace of operational radar – without which the *Battle of Britain* could not have been won – the scheme represents a unique project. It helps to reinforce the Quality of Place exemplified by the Awards, increases the visitor potential of Bawdsey, and is therefore a very worthy winner of a Conservation Award for 2018.

Bawdsey Radar Museum Picture: Freeland Rees Roberts Architects Bob Kindred Heritage Consultant





The Gate Lodge, Sibton Park - the submission

The Heveningham Hall estate purchased Sibton Park house and remaining parkland in 2010. Since then a project has been in place to piece back the core areas of the estate and bring it under a management structure based on the Heveningham estate

Be fore

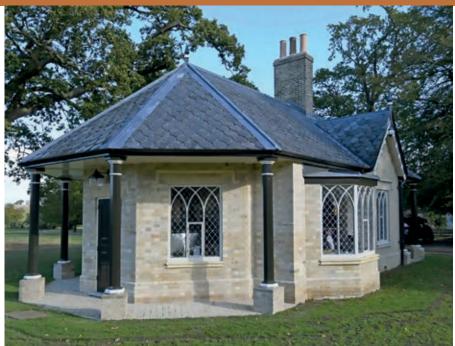
model where, as part of a long term Master Plan for the estate, Jon and Lois Hunt have been reinstating the old boundaries and bringing the Hall, ancillary buildings, parkland and wider landscape into good heart and proper management.

At Sibton the same model has been followed, restoring the relationship between the house and park as part of a wider, invigorated landscape. The















main house has been restored as the principal building on the estate. Recent inappropriate planting, garaging and yards have been removed, redundant farm buildings and the walled garden rescued and restored and ancillary accommodation created to support the estate and main house. Through these works it is proposed that the complex pattern of the estate will be revived.

The Lodge has been integral to the revised Sibton plan, restored once again as the entrance point for the estate and the first point of contact for visitors. The existing flat roof rear extensions have been modified and adapted to form a new wing that balances with the existing detail of the main entrance façade. The projecting bay of the south extension has been mirrored to the north forming a new room to the rear of the lodge to create additional space without compromising the original character of the building. New work was designed to match the existing detail with flat gauged brick arches, column detail, joinery and brickwork designed to follow existing details.

Judging analysis by Bob Kindred

The assessors considered this to be an exemplary restoration. The Grade II listed lodge, which dates from the 1830s, had at one time been unsympathetically altered by the addition of two modern flat-roofed extensions and the window joinery in particular had deteriorated to the point where its attractive leaded lattice lights had been removed. This small and picturesque building at the entrance to Sibton Park and visible to passing motorists on the A1120 road has now been altered and extended almost seamlessly to create a delightful and coherent little piece of architecture and provide office accommodation associated with the running of the estate.

There are many aspects of the work to admire with the careful choice of matching brickwork and mortar and the replication of the fish-scale slate roof. Repairs to the window joinery were only done where necessary, rather than by complete replacement, and the reinstatement of the lattice

lights is a triumph. The finished scheme is a tribute to the owners, the architect and the craftsmen involved and the renovation shows a highly commendable approach to architectural conservation.

There are nearly 400 listed gate lodges in England and many more that are not formally protected.

Their small size (sometimes single lodges, sometimes in pairs flanking an entrance) make them something of a problem building type when it comes to reuse and/or extension and their ability to sympathetically accommodate the needs of the 21st century necessary to ensure their continuing survival.

This scheme provides an excellent example of how such work should be approached and sets a model standard for others to follow, not only in Suffolk, and it is therefore considered to be a particularly meritorious award winner for 2018.

The Gate Lodge, Sibton Park Pictures: Angus Hardy, Architect Bob Kindred, Heritage Consultant <u>mailto:bob.kindred@bobkindred.demon.co.uk</u>



In November 2018 the *Coastal Revival Fund* supported by the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG) made awards to projects totalling almost £1 million to restore coastal landmarks and bring economic growth to coastal communities. Phase 2 projects in 2019 received another £1 million. Here are the projects in Suffolk from both phases.

Southwold Boating Lake Restoration

Owned by Southwold Town Council, this attraction is to benefit from a £15,000 Coastal Revival Fund grant after being identified as a significant element in the town's heritage, tourism and wildlife. The lake, which dates back to 1900, has provided a hub for boating and model yachting for generations.

The vision will incorporate the entire 20 acre site, and include the tearooms to the front, the model yacht pond and the large lagoon area at the rear which

encompasses an area of rich natural habitat.

With the funding boost, a feasibility study will be carried out to assess and appraise various options available, as well as consider how signage could be improved to direct people to the lake and to other destinations in the town. The project will be managed by the town and district councils.

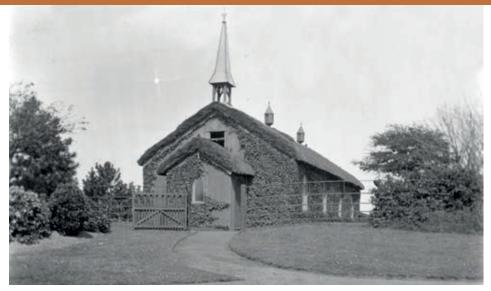
St. Bartholomew's Church, Grade II*, Corton, Lowestoft

The grant of £28,300 is to undertake a feasibility study to restore the church tower as a coastal viewing point and to halt the serious deterioration of the fabric of the roofless and windowless tower. This medieval parish church was in ruins by the C17th, with partial restoration during the C18th/19th/20th. Of the nave, chancel, west tower and south porch, the only parts in use are the chancel and the eastern most bay of the nave, although

further accommodation was added within the shell of the nave. Built of flint rubble, the lower parts of the tower and chancel are faced with knapped flint, with stone dressings. The church pantile roof, partly re-roofed in 1870, attaches to an imposing C15th tall, square tower. Of interest, the C14th 3-bay nave had Perpendicular-style windows, now missing except in the eastern bay where they have been renewed. There is still much original moulding and many good features. In the south nave are the rood loft stairs and a simple piscine - and there are many other points of interest for the church architectural enthusiast.







Tin Chapel, Bawdsey Manor, formerly (above) and now (below)



Tin Chapel, Grade II*, Bawdsey Manor Estate

A feasibility study is to be carried out on the Bawdsey Manor tin chapel after being awarded £30,500 in the Phase 2 projects. It was constructed in the late nineteenth century by Cuthbert Ouilter for the workers on his 3.000acre Estate, on the Suffolk east coast. Originally thatched, the tin chapel was a prefabricated building similar to many that were shipped off to the British colonies in the late Victorian Empire days for use as chapels, school rooms, houses and shops. Of simple prefabricated construction, these buildings form a distinctive and important building type worthy of preservation. The tin chapel at Bawdsey Manor is neglected and in a poor and deteriorating condition. A new, low key use for this attractive curtilage-listed building is sought.

Felixstowe South Seafront Promenade

With a £30,000 grant towards a feasibility study and capital project, Suffolk Coastal District Council and Felixstowe Forward are set to regenerate a heritage promenade with a focus on implementing activities that improve health and wellbeing. The seafront gardens will provide a 'series of rooms', a concept which divides the area into a run of verv different areas with different characters and functions. including a place for play, a garden in which to lounge and rest, an

area to meet, formal gardens, landscape and sculpture gardens for families and much more.

The south seafront regeneration project has the potential for tourism growth and has been identified in the Local Strategy for the Felixstowe Peninsula.



The Scores – one of the ancient pathways to the beach

The Scores, Lowestoft

The Scores are a series of historic narrow lanes created over the years by people wearing paths in the soft, sloping cliff as they travelled between the old High Street and the now lost Beach Village. There were 14 in all but two are no longer available. This funding has come from the national Great Place Scheme (via the Arts Council England and the Heritage Lottery Fund, supported by Historic England) and is designed to pilot new approaches that enable cultural and community groups to work more closely together to place heritage at the heart of their communities. The aim is to boost the cultural offer of seaside towns. The Scores has been earmarked to expose its unique history and the significance of its ancient pathways.

'The origin of the word 'score' is thought to be a corruption of 'scour', or possibly from the Old English 'scora', which means to make or cut a line.'

An information plaque at the head of Mariners Score



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SPS Events Review

All our events aim to raise funds for the work of the SPS.

An evening with Simon Jenkins 21st September 2018

Members were welcomed to Framlingham College's excellent pavilion for an engaging talk by Sir Simon Jenkins on his latest book, Britain's 100 Best Railway Stations. Sir Simon Jenkins is an author, broadcaster and newspaper columnist formerly Chair of the National Trust and a previous editor of The Times

Sir Simon's talk was augmented by some splendid illustrations and photographs of some of his favourite and interesting railway stations. He covered a number of the one hundred: from the very first, Liverpool Road Station in Manchester, the facade of which was designed on a domestic scale so as not to detract from its residential location, to the very latest grand refurbishment of St. Pancras Station. Sir Simon also touched on the various architectural styles of railway station, including the ornate roofed stations of Slough and Norwich, which wouldn't look out of place in Paris, to smaller stations of the cottage orne style in rural locations, designed to house station staff.

He spoke of the burgeoning numbers of commercial railway operators of the 19th century, trying to outdo each other, particularly when it came to the architecture of their stations. The rivalry between the Midland and Great Eastern Railway companies, at their neighbouring London stations, is evident in the Victorian Gothic style of St. Pancras and the more modernist King's Cross with its huge train shed like arches and monochrome brickwork. He suggested that the rivalry between the operators even stretched to them deliberately showing different times on their prominent clocks. The evening concluded with Sir Simon answering various questions from Members on architectural preservation of stations and he revealed Wemyss Bay, the 1903 James Millar design, as his favourite railway station. Chris Philbedge, Member

Landscape Training Day 16th October 2018

In light of the increased challenges posed by housing development to communities across the county SPS organised its first landscape training for consultees. Representatives from over 18 community groups met at Haughley Park Barn for a morning seminar by landscape architect, Ruth Elwood. Designed to equip community groups with better understanding of what to look for and how to go about getting it we were taken on an upbeat and energetic exploration of a wide range of practical and technical matters. Included were liberal amounts of down-toearth advice delivered with a compelling passion and a refreshingly irreverent approach to the subject.

The training covered a broad spectrum of issues from how to read a landscaping masterplan, when to call for an arboriculture implications assessment, and what to look for when you are given one. We considered development in tree root protection areas and methods that should be used to safeguard roots, both within the site and within 15 metres of it. Also assessed was what can go wrong, what are the requirements and ways to work around existing trees including no dig construction, bridge and beam structures, trenching and raft foundations.

Tree types and their specification followed. We learned to reject the 'typical trees' such as Himalayan Birch and Ornamental Pear in favour of our native 'forest scale' trees: oak, maple and lime. The session was concluded by looking at how to integrate trees into design layouts and how even the hardest of urban landscapes can include large scale trees by the use of techniques such as using structural cells. We were shown the relative planting distances of varying tree types, which was very revealing, and shown how so often housing estates lack landscaping of any heft, as front gardens are generally too small to permit the planting of large scale trees.

An insight into how 'developers' frequently

and the increasing likelihood of drainage requirements trumping all considerations of delivering a quality public realm, was considered.

The talk was erudite, fascinating and made relevant by the interweaving of a variety of case studies brought by the delegates. The feedback was unsurprisingly positive. Ruth provided an outstanding session that was informative as well as inspiring. We will be running this course again. Don't miss it! Fiona Cairns, SPS Director

Heritage Training Day 12th March 2019

This was the fourth occasion on which heritage consultant, Bob Kindred, has run our heritage training seminar. This time saw a change of venue to Lavenham Village Hall. A full house of representatives from parish councils, neighbourhood planning groups, amenity societies and architect practices attended the seminar which was designed to bring clarity to the system which aims to protect listed buildings, their settings and conservation areas. Bob began with an explanation of the relevant law, the technical language and national and local policy and guidance. He then advised the attendees on the best ways to respond effectively to applications which may harm the heritage in their areas - advising in particular to focus on the most damaging aspects of any proposals. Finally, Bob used some case studies from outside Suffolk to illustrate applications that consultees are likely to encounter including works to a listed building, development in a conservation area and development affecting the setting of a listed building. We are very grateful to Bob for once again taking the time to impart some of his wealth of heritage knowledge. We are also encouraged by the enthusiastic response from those attending and hope they left better equipped to protect their local heritage, whether through policies in their emerging neighbourhood plans or as respondents to planning and listed building



Diary Dates

Support and enjoy events while raising important funds for the SPS. The website contains full details www.suffolksociety.org

BOOKING INFORMATION

All SPS events are open to members and their guests unless stated otherwise. However, some events may take limited numbers for obvious reasons so early booking is advisable. Please book through the SPS office, unless an alternative is given – Little Hall, Market Place, Lavenham CO10 9QZ, email address sps@suffolksociety.org or telephone 01787 247179. Cheques are payable to 'SPS' and upon receipt names will be placed on a list – tickets not usually issued. However, where tickets become necessary for a particular event, this will be indicated, and we request you enclose a stamped addressed envelope.

Events 2019

FROM CASTLE TO COLD WAR - READING THE HISTORIC LANDSCAPE

ORFORD TOWN HALL, Market Hill, IP12 2NZ

May: Friday, 10th

Time: 10.00 am - 4.00 pm

Cost: £35.00 Open to all

This day-school examines the topography, settlement patterns, field systems and buildings which give Suffolk its distinctive historic landscape character, and explains the methods and techniques which can be used to 'read' the history of both land and coast scape around us. The day school will be based in the historic coastal town of Orford and the theory of the morning session will be complemented by an afternoon walking tour to put the principles into practice. There will be time for assessment and discussion.

Dr. Richard Hoggett FSA MCiFA is a freelance heritage consultant, writer and lecturer specialising in heritage planning and has provided advice to individuals, landowners, local planning authorities and developers for over twenty years.

There will be a coffee break and lunch can be taken in Orford where there is a choice of pubs and cafes, or you can bring a packed lunch. Do join us for a day full of insight and interest.

Orford Town Hall



SPS CIO ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

LAVENHAM GUILDHALL Market Square, CO10 9QZ

Member's Annual Meeting

SPS/CPRE Members

June: Friday, 7th

Time: 6.00 for 6.30 pm for registration

The SPS CIO AGM is a special time for Members to hear first-hand how the charity is performing. It sets out the Society's direction and aspirations for the coming AGM year, as well as informing Members of its progress to date. It is also an opportunity for Members to meet with the new President, Geoffrey Probert, and the Trustees and the Director, and to enjoy a convivial evening with fellow Members. We look forward to welcoming you.

Light refreshments will be available so an indication of attendance would be appreciated.

Lavenham Guildhall



Special Event

SPS 90TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

GREAT BEVILLS, BURES

Sudbury Road, Bures St. Mary, CO8 5JW

June: Thursday, 27th Time: 6.30 - 8.30 pm Cost: £10 per person Members and guests

The Suffolk Preservation Society was formed in 1929 - ninety years ago and to celebrate this milestone in the Society's foundation the new President, Geoffrey Probert, has invited Members to Great Bevills, his home at Bures St. Mary.

Pevsner called 'Bevills', its former name, a 'spectacular house'. Great Bevills is a Grade II* listed late C15th timber-framed manor house built circa 1490 by Sir Richard Waldegrave for his son. The house was extensively restored in 1923 when the north and south gable ends were rebuilt and it has many fine features.

The gardens overlook the Stour Valley and are formal and Italianate in style with Irish yews and mature tree specimens.

Why not take this opportunity, if you are not a Member, to join the Society and be part of our celebration? Your support helps us to work to retain the special places in Suffolk for everyone. In its 90th year there can be no more important cause.

Gt. Bevills



MEDIA TRAINING FOR LOCAL COUNCILS AND AMENITY GROUPS

HADLEIGH, Ansell Centre,

Market Place, IP7 5DL (Access through Market Place turn left at the top and the venue is on the left.)

July: Tuesday, 2nd Time: 10.00 am – 1.00 pm Cost: £30.00 per delegate

Free to Members

Paul Simon runs his own public relations consultancy and is a freelance business journalist commissioned by Archant Limited. This workshop aims to demonstrate the ways in which campaigners and amenity groups can make more effective use of mainstream media and social media to raise awareness of their cause, highlight their concerns about proposed developments, build a campaign team and target their messages to different audiences. The session will involve a practical element aimed at writing the perfect media release.

Here is what delegates from the first seminar said.

"The event exceeded my expectations. Paul was excellent, engaging and comprehensive."

"The presentation was excellent, in particular the detail of how to do a press release."

Paul Simon



LANDSCAPE TRAINING

HAUGHLEY PARK BARN

Haughley, Stowmarket, IP14 3JY

October: 15th Tuesday Time: 9.30 am - 1.00 pm Cost: to be confirmed - see website

This enhanced landscape training programme will explore understanding landscape proposals as part of development schemes as well as the assessment of landscapes with a view to delivering Neighbourhood Plans.

Ruth Elwood, Landscape Architect, see page 23, has agreed to return to give us another informed insight into understanding landscape proposals - an important part of the planning toolkit. She will be joined by Alison Farmer, who is one of the UK's leading professionals in landscape character assessment. Alison's work covers landscape and visual impact and character assessments, townscape and urban fringe assessment, historic and designed landscapes, and protected landscape guidance, and will be of particular relevance

Ruth Elwood at Haughley



to neighbourhood planning groups. The speakers will be happy to hear your case studies. This broad spectrum of exploration will be delivered in an action packed session and will give delegates the technical skills to apply in the light of increased challenges posed by housing development across Suffolk - not to be missed!

Haughley Park Barn



Suffolk Preservation Society Charity Incorporated Organisation

Annual General Meeting 2019

Before the business of the AGM the Chairman of the CIO will welcome the new President, Geoffrey Probert.

Registered Charity No: 1154806

Annual General Meeting 2019

Notice is hereby given of the Annual General Meeting of Suffolk Preservation Society CIO (the "CIO") to be held on Friday, 7th June 2019 commencing at 6.30 pm (registration from 6.00 pm) at Lavenham Guildhall for the following purposes:

- 1. To note any apologies for absence;
- 2. To receive the Trustees' Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2018;
- 3. To receive the Trustees' Annual Report;
- 4. To re-elect Trustees Lois Hunt, Bob Kindred and Tony Redman who retire by rotation in accordance with the CIO Constitution
- 5. To elect Robert Townshend as a Trustee co-opted during the year by the CIO Trustees in accordance with the Constitution.
- 6. To re-appoint a registered auditor to the CIO, to hold office until the conclusion of the next general meeting when accounts are laid before the meeting.
- 7. Director's report.

Ouestions to the Director and Trustees

Members of SPS CIO (including Suffolk CPRE members resident in Suffolk who gain automatic membership of SPS CIO) may attend and vote in person at the Annual General Meeting by registering at the Registration Desk which will be open at Lavenham Guildhall from 6.00 pm, 7th June 2019. Voting by Members will take place by a show of hands.

Members who are unable to attend the Annual General Meeting in person may appoint the Chairman or another person to speak and vote in their place at the meeting. The appointment of a proxy must be notified to the CIO in writing using the proxy form overleaf and delivered to the registered office of the CIO at Little Hall, Market Place, Lavenham, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 9QZ at least 72 hours before the date and time of the Annual General Meeting.

By Order of the Trustees Andrew Fane Chairman

Note: The CIO accounts ended 31st December 2018 will be made available on the website from 3rd May 2019, and at the AGM. A personal profile of the proposed Trustee offering himself for election is on the CIO's website and available at the AGM. Copies of the 2018 AGM Minutes will be available at the AGM. For reasons of economy AGM papers will not be mailed out to Members unless requested. www.suffolksociety.org sps@suffolksociety.org

At the conclusion of business refreshments will be served – see Diary Dates on page 24 for details and an indication of attendance would be helpful – 01787 247179, or email as above.

We look forward to welcoming you.

Suffolk Preservation Society Charity Incorporated Organisation

Registered Charity No: 1154806

Form of proxy for use at the Annual General Meeting to be held on Friday, 7th June 2019 in accordance with the Notice of Meeting.

I/we the undersigned, being a Member/Members of Suffolk Preservation Society CIO,

To be valid this form of proxy must be signed by the Member and received at the registered office of the CIO at least 72 hours prior to the commencement of the meeting.

hereby appoint the Chairman of the meeting or the person hereby named –

as my/our proxy to attend, speak and vote in respect of my/our voting entitlement at the AGM of the CIO as set out in the Notice of Meeting.

Resolutions:		
FOR	AGAINST	VOTE WITHHELD
	FOR	FOR AGAINST

Signature of Member: Date: Date:

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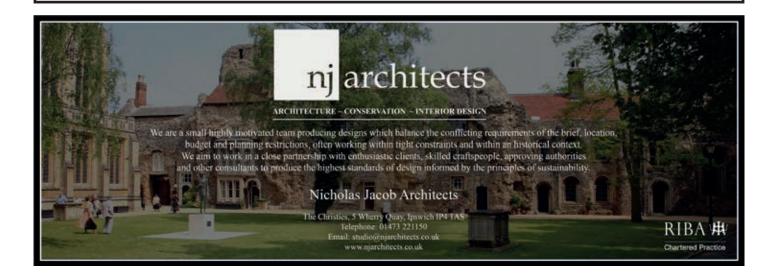
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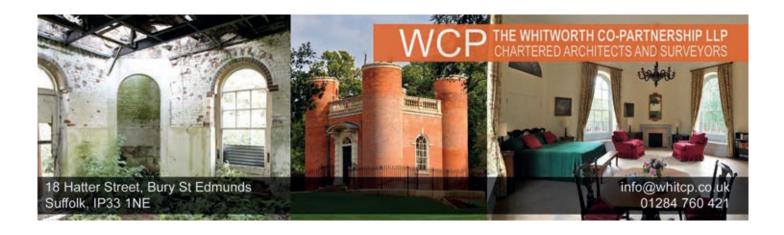
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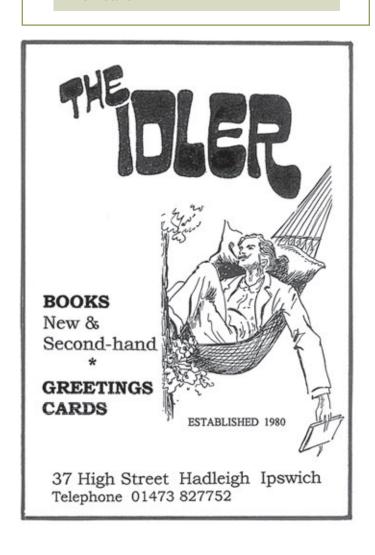
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Suffolk View is the publication of the Suffolk Preservation Society

The SPS ethos is to protect and enhance the quality of the countryside, towns and villages of Suffolk. Its work promotes protection for the built heritage and wider landscape and supports sustainable development while agitating for improved design in new build. With planning and conservation professionals based in Lavenham, and with the support of members throughout the County, it is well placed to take effective action through the planning system to retain the integrity of Suffolk for the benefit of everyone, and for future generations. It is the only non-political, independent countywide charity to represent this interest.

Please join today and become part of the action to protect Suffolk. **www.suffolksociety.org**



