

Cllr Stephen Molyneux Report:

Pettistree:

I've agreed to support the parish with two new 'Not suitable for HGV' signs for Rogues Lane and I see that the bus stops are falling under the parish responsibility, however, if it was deemed that the brick bus stop was to be replaced then county have funding for this if it is on highways land.

General:

LGR has been paused by government to review that it's in line with the new government's direction meaning that next year's May elections will now be for district. It's a strange position to be in as, being a district councillor as well, the idea of district no longer existing wasn't an appealing one, especially given the level of resources given digging our own graves, detracted from what we wished to achieve whilst in power. Everyone however, got on with it with a view that in the end, it will be for the better, plus there wasn't much anyone could do about it. The reform judicial review wasn't welcome precisely because it threw more uncertainty into an already uncertain landscape. I've likened it to trying to cross a road, hesitating and then getting run over. As of today, I found out that the LGR review will be complete in October this year which now begs the question, what if they turn around and say 'the review is complete and we're good to go'?

This is a microcosm of the national picture in that nothing is being allowed to settle and establish. There is no certainty and because of this, resources are ultimately being squandered.

Committees:

I'm the deputy spokesperson for Development and Regulation and am on the committee.

We've had two meetings now, one of which led to follow up research on school building standards as a new extension for a school in Thurston hadn't actually met Mid Suffolk Local Plan requirement, however, these requirements seem to be met by policy at DfE level. It turns out that since 2015 SCC has generally overlooked this policy requirement and I'm currently seeing what provision there is to ensure that new schools and school extensions are of the highest quality. This line of research will feed into the new school at Brightwell Lakes.

The meeting with Concertus was incredibly enlightening and I'm now satisfied that in lieu of the BREEAM certification, the DfE standards around sustainability that came in this year are very thorough and effective, however, they are to be levered into a one size fits all approach to the aesthetics of the building. This means a more expensive building as design around sustainability and form needs to be addressed at first principles rather than rigid

prescription. It's a problem countrywide and one that myself and the lead spokesperson for Dev and Reg in the Green opposition will address.

Visits:

I recently attended Octopus Energy's Energy Tech Summit which boasted speakers such as John Kerry (64th US Secretary of State), Boris Johnson, Jimmy Wales (found of Wikipedia) and Claire Coutino Shadow Secretary of State among many others. The event showed the strength of the renewable energy market in the UK and the woeful direction of travel we're seeing politically where misinformation and vested interests are trying to put the breaks on a shift that needs to happen much faster.

I arranged a meeting with the Norfolk and Suffolk Housing Partnership regarding getting better results for social housing stock via post occupancy evaluation, so when new buildings are put up and when existing buildings are retrofitted, we know how the building's performing. We need data as you can't manage what you don't measure. We had East Suffolk Council, two housing associations and The University of Suffolk (who sadly couldn't attend last minute) but the meeting was constructive and there was a consensus around introducing this as a work stream for local authority housing stock and housing association stock.