

Paul Gadd County Councillor Update

Saffron Walden Town Council 11/9/23

[Items in italics are left over from previous updates]

1. Locality Fund:

- a. The applications for £500 each from Men in Sheds and from the PSG women's football team for help with kit have both been approved by ECC

2. Education

- a. *[On my call in May 2023, ECC confirmed that they will exercise the option to acquire the school site behind Tesco which is part of the Linden Homes land. Their legal function seems to be under a lot of resourcing pressure at the moment, so I've chased to check that they are exercising the option in good time.]* I will chase again later in the month for an update
- b. *[I've now spoken with Essex education regarding the shortage of nursery places locally, and they recognise that there is a real issue which needs addressing, and they intend to do so. They have been contacted by a possible new nursery provider and I am also talking to Cllr Coote in his capacity at the Bell Nursery; he is talking to Essex.]* ECC were going to contact me once they had updated figures at the end of July – I've chased.

3. Council Matters:

- a. I have received a list of the schools affected in Essex by the RAAC scandal. In this division, only Katherine Semar (infants and juniors) is affected, although I understand that it has been declared safe. Joyce Frankland is also on the list but I don't have any more information.
- b. ECC in conjunction with the district councils are starting a campaign to increase food waste recycling. It is now being rolled out to Uttlesford, and residents should shortly be receiving the following:-
 - i. a one-off roll of compostable liners (through the door)
 - ii. an information leaflet tailored to each local council area (through the door)
 - iii. a 'no food in here please' sticker (applied directly to wheeled residual waste bin)

A link can be found here [Helping you to reduce your food waste | Essex County Council](#) and I've also attached the Q&A circulated, so anything you can to publicise would be helpful

4. Matters for Planning and Transport:

- a. Matters concerning: Flooding and drainage issues; highways and planning are separately reported to the Planning and Transport Committee.
- b. *[I would note for all councillors though that Essex Highways are operating their member led pothole scheme again, so I'll be allowed to nominate 2 lots of 18 potholes! My first window of opportunity will be mid August, so any particularly bad ones, let me know. When you do, please include location, at least 2 photos and the reference number from when it has been reported – if any haven't been reported, please report them first - [Tell us - Essex County Council \(essexhighways.org\)](#)].* I've reported the worst holes I've been notified of and have now exhausted my allocation; I'll let Council know when I get the next 18!