

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT
TO CAMPSEA ASHE, MELTON, PETTISTREE, RENDLESHAM; UFFORD, AND
WICKHAM MARKET PARISH COUNCILS
OCTOBER 2013

PLUS DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S NOTES
(FOR MELTON; PETTISTREE

ENDEAVOUR CARDS

Suffolk people aged 16 to 19 can now apply for a free "Endeavour Card", which provides a 25% discount on bus fares across the county. The aim is to help young people make use of training and work opportunities.

The card, which is similar to the Oyster Card used in London, came into operation from 1 st October. To start with, the card will simply give users a discount, with them paying the balance as they get on the bus. But from April next year, young people will be able to top-up the card with extra credit, to enable entirely cash-less payments, and so speed up boarding times. So far, a wide range of bus operators have signed up to the scheme. These include: Ipswich Buses, Galloway, Coach Services, Stephensons, Carters, Suffolk Norse, Anglian Bus and First Eastern Counties. Anyone interested in applying for an Endeavour Card can do so by going on-line to: www.suffolkonboard.com

EXAM RESULTS

Exam results in Suffolk have shown an encouraging improvement, across Key Stage Two, GCSE and A-Level.

There was an average 5% increase in the number of pupils achieving 5 A* - C grades (including Maths and English) at GCSE level, and nearly 30% of A-level pupils gained A* or A grades, compared with 26% nationally.

PARKING

I have had complaints about the danger caused by parking on Old Maltings Approach Melton and have proposed putting cones along the affected stretches while a long term solution is sought. The problem is exacerbated by the erection of solid building-site screens that cut off the view ahead. Drivers are forced to move forward "blind" on a curve.

A "softly softly" approach by the police towards chaotic parking around Woodbridge Primary School in Melton has failed, and therefore fixed penalties will be awarded for illegal parking.

PIT STOP HOLIDAY CLUB

I am continuing to help seek another site for the use of the Pit Stop Holiday Club in Melton after complaints about noise.

WICKHAM MARKET COMMUNITY CENTRE

There has been a delay in issuing building approval for the conversion of a redundant shower room in Wickham Market Community Centre, which I am investigating.

MONEY

The accounts of SCC and SCDC were audited by Ernst and Young, and in both cases were given an unqualified approval. I have heard that budget preparation within SCC is proving to be extremely difficult, which will be of no surprise to anyone.

SELF

I might be abroad for a few days in mid October.

Michael Bond