

District Councillor Report for Stansfield Parish Council meeting on 10th September 2025

Council News

The Council has launched a consultation website www.threecouncilsforSuffolk.org.uk which sets out how the Council envisages three unitary authorities would work to replace the current District and County Council layout which the Government is currently consulting on. Councillors such as myself, are finally being consulted on plans and the discussions have been quite interesting. I personally have no preference and can see merit in the County proposal for one unitary authority and also in the three unitary model. Suffolk County Council will debate and vote on their proposal on 16th September. If it is approved it will be submitted to Government on 26th September. West Suffolk District Council is meeting on 23rd September to debate and vote on the Three Unitary proposal, again for submission on 26th September.

The Government set this ball rolling because it wanted local Government to do more and cost less. I am not convinced all of these changes will bring about many cost savings, certainly not in the short term, but do take a wander to the website and add your comments.

The net zero target has been pushed back by 9 years to 2039 but again, this is an evolving national topic so don't be surprised if there is a further adjustment to this.

Town and Parish Forum 21st October 2025

You will have had an invitation as a Parish to attend this meeting at West Suffolk House. If you haven't been to one, it is quite interesting so do try to send a representative. Unfortunately I am on holiday that week so I won't be there this year.

Planning Matters

I have been advised of the following applications:

DC/25/1162/LB and DC/25/1163/HH – Lower Thatch Cottage

Sarah Pugh

District Councillor for Whepstead and Wickhambrook