

# Parish Report – October 2022

**Councillor Andrew Stringer**

Upper Gipping Division

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For information on local support during the Cost-of-Living Crisis, visit:

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/community-and-safety/communities/healthier/cost-of-living-support/>

For information on supporting Ukrainian refugees in Suffolk, email:

[refugeesupport@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:refugeesupport@suffolk.gov.uk) or [ukrainesupport@communityactionsuffolk.org.uk](mailto:ukrainesupport@communityactionsuffolk.org.uk)

## **Queen Elizabeth II**

Following the sad loss of the Queen, in my role as a County Councillor, I attended the Proclamation in Eye, and the service of thanksgiving at Bury St Edmunds Cathedral

## **Road Safety Improvements**

We have a new officer framework in dealing with progressing our local highways issues that are not part of the Highways management operational plan, The issues the officer will be working on are for instance, the items from my Local Highways Budget. Our local officer is Josh White.

## **EV Charging – Expression of Interests!**

SCC have been successful in a bid for funding towards new EV charging infrastructure. The £2.75m funding will focus on community-owned carparks, where charging can be accessed 24/7.

If you wish to express interest and make the Council aware of your area, please contact Peter Frost, Environment Strategy Officer - [peter.frost2@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:peter.frost2@suffolk.gov.uk)

## **Suffolk in talks to become investment zone**

Suffolk County Council has let it be known that it has agreed to start discussions with Government to become an investment zone as part of the PM's new growth and investment strategy.

Our political group has gone on record in the media that we are opposed to the idea since the Government says it wants to remove environmental controls and planning controls within these zones. Since the council began talks, the RSPB, National Trust and the Wildlife Trusts, including Suffolk Wildlife Trust have all described the plans, announced in Kwasi Kwarteng's mini budget, as "an attack on nature".

It is not yet clear which parts of Suffolk the council wants to be in the zone. The current Freeport East Zone, (investment zones are designed to replace Freeport zones) extends from the coast 50 miles inland to Sudbury and includes almost all villages in Mid Suffolk.

With advisors for the government clearly stating built development is not being able to be carried out quickly enough, and that the current planning system is holding back development, we await to see what planning rules will be changed or abolished.

