

Occold Parish Council 12.12.2011

County Councillor Report

New Heritage Organisation

The county council has agreed to pursue a partnership with the “Museum of East Anglian Life” to create a new organisation to raise the profile of Heritage in Suffolk and put our Archive and archaeology services on a more sustainable footing, by locating all these services at Abbots Hall in Stowmarket run by a board of trustees, we should be able to make Stowmarket a vital centre for anyone researching family history, or anyone interested in artifact conservation, will be able to see this in action on the Museum site.

The Business case for this states, we aim to create an innovative 21st century way of protecting and promoting Suffolk’s Heritage for everyone, and anticipates commissioning a new building on the Stowmarket site to accommodate what was the most sensible idea to come out of Suffolk County Councils drive to outsource services.

John Peel Centre Update

As you may have already heard, the John Peel centre was successful in their regional bid to “Biffa” for £500,000.00. This will mean that subject to further match funding, next year will see another phase of building works to install a lift, a mezzanine floor and box office etc.

The latest phase of building works, Installing a new entrance doors and specially commissioned stained glass windows, were completed on time and under budget. To find out more visit the website www.johnpeelcentreforcreativearts.co.uk.

Future of Highways

The future of Suffolk’s Highways is set to be tendered out to the private sector, in a document agreed at the last Cabinet meeting at Endeavour House, where councillors approved putting our entire future highways service to a fully private sector model. Most of our current contracts run out in 2013 when the new model is aimed to take control. The documents that promote this move insist that the democratic accountability especially for services such as gritting will be largely unchanged.

Hope you all have a great Christmas
and look forward to assisting you in the new year

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