NEW WEST SUFFOLK COUNCIL IN MAY 2019

May 2019 will see elections for a new council for this area. Forest Heath and St. Edmundsbury will join together to become the new West Suffolk Council and it is planned to expand our Lakenheath Ward to include Eriswell and Elveden (subject to public consultation).

For several years Conservative run Forest Heath and St. Edmundsbury councils have been sharing services, saving tax-payers over £4m per annum. In under a year’s time they will jointly become West Suffolk Council, set to be one of the largest district councils in England.

The new council will then save a further £800,000 annually through more efficiencies. The number of councillors will also reduce and this is why our ward will be growing in size (see green area of map opposite).

Cllr. Colin Noble said, “West Suffolk will become the sixth biggest district in England and will punch well above its weight, creating real opportunities for our residents and the local economy.”

Message from the Editor—Cllr Colin Noble

LET’S BE POSITIVE ABOUT THE FUTURE

Next year we will experience major changes to the governance of our country and our local area, with the new West Suffolk Council being created in May 2019 and with Brexit we’ll have left the EU in March.

Many people are worried by uncertainty, but I believe that these changes represent a real opportunity for the people living in this area. With the new Council we can take full advantage of our unique position in Suffolk with the economic powerhouse of Cambridge to one side and the Port of Felixstowe to the other. As Conservative councillors we are here to help our businesses grow and focused on creating high value jobs for our residents.

RAF MILDENHALL BASE MUST BRING GROWTH

Following last year’s decision by the US Air Force to stay at RAF Mildenhall until 2024, Conservative councillors at Forest Heath have been working with the MOD on a development brief for the base.

Local residents don’t want the base to become just a huge housing estate when the Americans leave. They want opportunities for jobs, retail, leisure, health, education and industry as well as good quality housing.

Local Conservatives are determined to plan for an exciting future for our area that will boost the economy and benefit everyone.

Caring and Campaigning for our Community
Find out more at westsuffolkconservatives.com
COUNCIL INVESTS TO EARN CASH TO KEEP TAX DOWN

Over recent years local councils have seen their central government grants reduce in exchange for retaining business rates raised locally and this has rightly encouraged councils to become more commercial, nowhere more than in Forest Heath.

Conservative run Forest Heath is renowned nationally as one of the most commercially minded local authorities in the UK. It has created a housing company, has bought a factory building saving 100s of jobs and earning a rental income and in 2016 it bought a solar farm in Lakenheath which is generating a financial return of over 10% per year. Income from these initiatives is being invested into front-line council services, helping secure their quality and also keeping our council tax low.

Conservative councillors are also encouraging businesses to rent solar panels to split the financial savings to help economic growth and to generate further income for the council to improve services.

COUNCILLORS SUPPORT HEART DEFIBRILLATORS IN LAKENHEATH

Lakenheath councillors Louise Marston and Colin Noble were delighted to contribute money from their locality funding budget to support a fantastic village initiative to place Heart Defibrillators on the Lakenheath High Street in case of emergencies. A defibrillator is a life-saving emergency system that delivers a dose of electric current to a suspected heart attack victim. The machine can be used by simply following the instructions on the cabinet.

Employment NEWS

WEST SUFFOLK BENEFITS FROM GOVERNMENT JOBS POLICIES

Figures out this month show that more people are in work in the UK than ever before and that unemployment is now at a 40 year low. In West Suffolk, the number of people claiming the key out of work benefits has fallen by 85%, a 45% drop since 2010.

Local employment has increased in East Anglia, with 3,162,698 people in work – an increase of 338,646 more people with jobs since 2010, benefiting families across the region.

And youth unemployment continues to go down by an average of 141 every day since the Conservatives won the general election in 2010. More jobs means more people with spending power to boost our local economy.

YOUR CONSERVATIVE CAMPAIGNS FOR LAKENHEATH

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Facebook: Facebook.com/AskColinMobile
Blog: AskColinMobile.wordpress.com

Cllr Louise Marston
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Stephen Frost
Local Campaigner
Mobile: 07710 436672
Email: spfrost@tory.org

The Council’s Solar Farm in Lakenheath

Help us campaign for our villages in the Lakenheath Ward

Staying in touch with local people is really important to us. Please take a minute to fill out this survey and return it to us, so that we can stay in touch with issues that are personally important to you and your family.

How to complete this survey:

1. Decide whether you’ll complete the paper survey online
2. Then fill in your details to ensure the survey is representative & give us your views
3. If completing the paper survey below, then detach this page from the newsletter and refold the survey at Fold 1 and then Fold 2. Then moisten the gummed strip, seal and post it back to us FREE

To complete it online visit surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Lakenheath1

PLEASE WRITE IN BLOCK CAPITALS

Name
Address
Postcode
Email
Home Tel
Mobile

1 Which of the following local issues are most important to you. Please number from 1 (most important) to 3

□ Building affordable homes
□ Supporting local shops & businesses
□ Reducing litter and improving street cleaning
□ Maintaining low Council Tax
□ Recycling & rubbish collection
□ Creating a successful new West Suffolk Council
□ Having an efficiently run parish council

How to indicate how you would like to receive this information.

□ Road and pothole repairs
□ Generating more green energy
□ Reducing crime & anti-social behaviour
□ Reducing speeding on rural roads
□ Creating of more jobs
□ Improving public transport
□ Introducing Parking Enforcement

2 Which THREE of these national Conservative commitments are most important to you? (Please number in priority order)

□ Cut the deficit and deal with the country’s debts
□ Crack down on tax evasion and avoidance
□ Control and reduce immigration
□ Increasing funding for the NHS by £8bn per year
□ Protect spending on schools
□ Cut income tax and raise the personal allowances
□ Ensure pensions rise by a minimum 2.5% per year
□ Commitment to deliver on Brexit
□ Invest more in our National Security and defence
□ Continue to create more jobs
□ Ensure welfare benefits are fair and reward work
□ Expand Britain’s National Parks
□ Increasing the national living wage
□ Build a million more homes by 2022

We would like to keep in touch with you about these issues and our work locally. Please tick the relevant boxes below to indicate how you would like to receive this information.

□ Post □ Email □ Telephone Number

The information you provide will be used to influence policies only, and will be used only by the Conservative Party; including its candidates, representatives and associations. We will not give information to anyone else, and it will be easy to withdraw your consent at any time by contacting office@westsuffolkconservatives.com

Contact: Tel 01473 259259 or 07710 436672
Email: westsuffolkconservatives.com

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