

### **New Administration Takes Shape**

The County Council met for the first time in May, at which Cllr Michael Hadwen (Felixstowe Clifflands) was elected leader of the County Council. Local Councillors Philip Faircloth-Mutton (Stour Valley) and Kerrie Turner (Cornard & Sudbury East) are now Deputy Leader of the County Council and Cabinet Member for Adult Care, and Vice Chairman respectively.

The administration's objectives are rooted in transforming services and putting common sense and community delivery at the heart of all work and outcomes.

### **Local Government Reorganisation Challenge**

The Reform Suffolk County Council administration has formally challenged the Local Government Reorganisation Plans for Suffolk, and we are now awaiting the Government's response. If the Government rejects our challenge, we will move forward with a judicial review following legal advice highlighting procedural flaws in the process.

I was grateful to receive the Chairman's comments and have referred them to our legal team for comment.

### **Refocusing the County Council's Environmental Agenda**

The administration is initiating a full audit of all environmental and net zero projects across Suffolk to ensure every scheme delivers genuine value, measurable outcomes, and clear benefits for local communities. This review will examine project performance, spending, governance, and alignment with Suffolk's strategic priorities, with findings reported publicly once complete.

This reflects our commitment to transparency, accountability, and evidence-based decision-making as we assess which initiatives should continue, be reformed, or be brought to an end.

We have already earmarked £175,000 saving by intending on switching the County Council's electricity tariff in October.

### **Local matters**

I understand the monies from the Clerk have now been transferred in respect of the High Street/Barrow Hill intersection project and will continue to monitor the progress of the scheme.