January County Council Report from Cllr Stuart Bird.

FOOTPATH SKIRTING

You will recall that there was some money available during 2021 for additional work to "skirt back" overgrown footpaths. I submitted 7 locations within my Division in June. These were assessed and I was finally notified in December of the result.

Three locations were in Trimley St. Martin. The footpath outside the Sports and Social Club on the High Road, and the footpath on Old Kirton Road adjacent to the electricity sub station have been done. The footpath on the St Martins Green side of Howlett Way was ordered for skirting work in the first week of December, with work to be completed within 14 weeks from then.

COUNTY COUNCIL BUDGET 2023/24

The budget has been finalised after an all day meeting on 09 December. This will be presented to and examined by Scrutiny Committee in January before going to Council for approval in February 2023.

The Suffolk County Council element of Council Tax amounts to approximately 80% and it is critical that this expenditure, roughly £650 million, is scrutinised thoroughly. I will be attending as a Member of Scrutiny Committee.

With best wishes for a successful 2023!