

Suffolk County Council meeting Thursday 7 December 2023, vote taken on the amendment to Motion 2.

The amendment to Motion 2 – Proposed by Councillor Paul West and seconded by Councillor Steve Wiles.

Motion Text:

'This council extends its thanks to the communities, farmers, Highways teams and other council officers who worked so hard during Storm Babet and other recent storms to assist people whose homes and businesses had been flooded, and children and workers who were stranded across the county.

The storm and consequent flooding have been described as a one-in-100-year event, although this will be of little comfort to those with damaged homes businesses and belongings, with costly repairs. It also does not take into account the trend of extreme weather events which are increasing in regularity and severity across the UK and indeed the world.

We propose that to mitigate the devastating effects of avoidable flooding in Suffolk, the following steps are undertaken:

In order to assist with the measures against flooding, the following should be undertaken:

- 1. Cyclical gully and drain clearance in areas prone to flooding should be every three months rather than the current six-month cycle
- 1. High-risk flood areas, including areas prone to residential and commercial premises flooding will have the frequency of cyclic gully and drain clearance reviewed; increasing the frequency to every 3 months in heavily silted areas, and that where an investigative report triggered by Section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 makes a recommendation on gulley cleansing, that it shall be accepted.
- 2. Reported issues of Suffolk County Council assets, of damaged gullies and drainage issues, to be fixed within three months.
- 2. All identified gullies that are damaged should be assessed and actioned according to the safety intervention matrix of the County Council's Highway Maintenance Operational Plan (Matrix E).
- Improved partnership working Continue to work with district and borough councils, Anglian Water and Environment Agency to coordinate cyclical maintenances and flooding alleviation schemes.

- 4. As the floods authority consultee on planning applications, this council should consider carefully the flooding implications of development proposals and prepare timely, appropriate responses.
- 4. Notes that the County Council has been the Statutory Consultee for Surface Water on major developments since 2015 and comments on over 1,000 applications per annum with over 90% being responded to within 21 days and thanks the relevant team.
- 5. Calls on all Districts and Boroughs in Suffolk with responsibility under The Environmental Protection Act 1990 Section 89(1) and (2) to ensure that all roads are swept at least four times a year to ensure that detritus is not carried into highway drainage systems, thereby restricting their capacity to manage flood water.

Total results	
For	32
Against	13
Abstain	4

Conservative Group

Councillor's Name	For	Against	Abstain
Edward Back	For		
Peter Beer			
Bobby Bennett	For		
Stuart Bird	For		
Elaine Bryce			
Stephen Burroughes	For		
Nadia Cenci	For		
Jenny Ceresa			
Chris Chambers	For		
Judy Cloke			
Andy Drummond			
Robert Everitt	For		
Philip Faircloth-Mutton	For		
James Finch	For		
Jessica Fleming	For		
Mick Fraser	For		
David Goldsmith	For		
Peter Gould			
Georgia Hall			
Liz Harsant	For		
Ryan Harvey			
T-J Haworth-Culf			
Matthew Hicks	For		
Rachel Hood			
Beccy Hopfensperger	For		

Christopher Hudson	For	
Michael Ladd	For	
Stuart Lawson	For	
Joe Mason	For	
Debbie McCallum		
Patti Mulcahy		
Sam Murray	For	
David Nettleton		
Alexander Nicoll		
Colin Noble	For	
Kay Oakes	For	
James Reeder	For	
Andrew Reid	For	
Debbie Richards	For	
Craig Rivett		
David Roach	For	
Keith Robinson		
Richard Rout	For	
Richard Smith MVO	For	
Karen Soons		
Heike Sowa		
Joanna Spicer		
Lance Stanbury	For	
Jamie Starling		
Melanie Vigo di Gallidoro		
Paul West	For	
Steve Wiles	For	
Nathan Wilson	For	

Green, Liberal Democrat and Independent Group

Councillor's Name	For	Against	Abstain
Seamus Bennett			Abstain
Jessie Carter		Against	
Annette Dunning		Against	
Simon Harley		Against	
Richard Kemp			
Ruth Leach		Against	
Ash Lever		Against	
Robert Lindsay		Against	
Inga Lockington		Against	
Victor Lukaniuk		Against	
Andy Mellen		Against	
Penny Otton			
Keith Scarff		Against	
Andrew Stringer		Against	
Caroline Topping		Against	
Keith Welham		Against	

Labour Group

Councillor's Name	For	Against	Abstain
Sarah Adams			
Rob Bridgeman			Abstain
Elizabeth Johnson			Abstain
Sandy Martin			Abstain
Lucy Smith			

Ungrouped Councillor

Councillor's Name	For	Against	Abstain
Peter Thompson			