

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2020

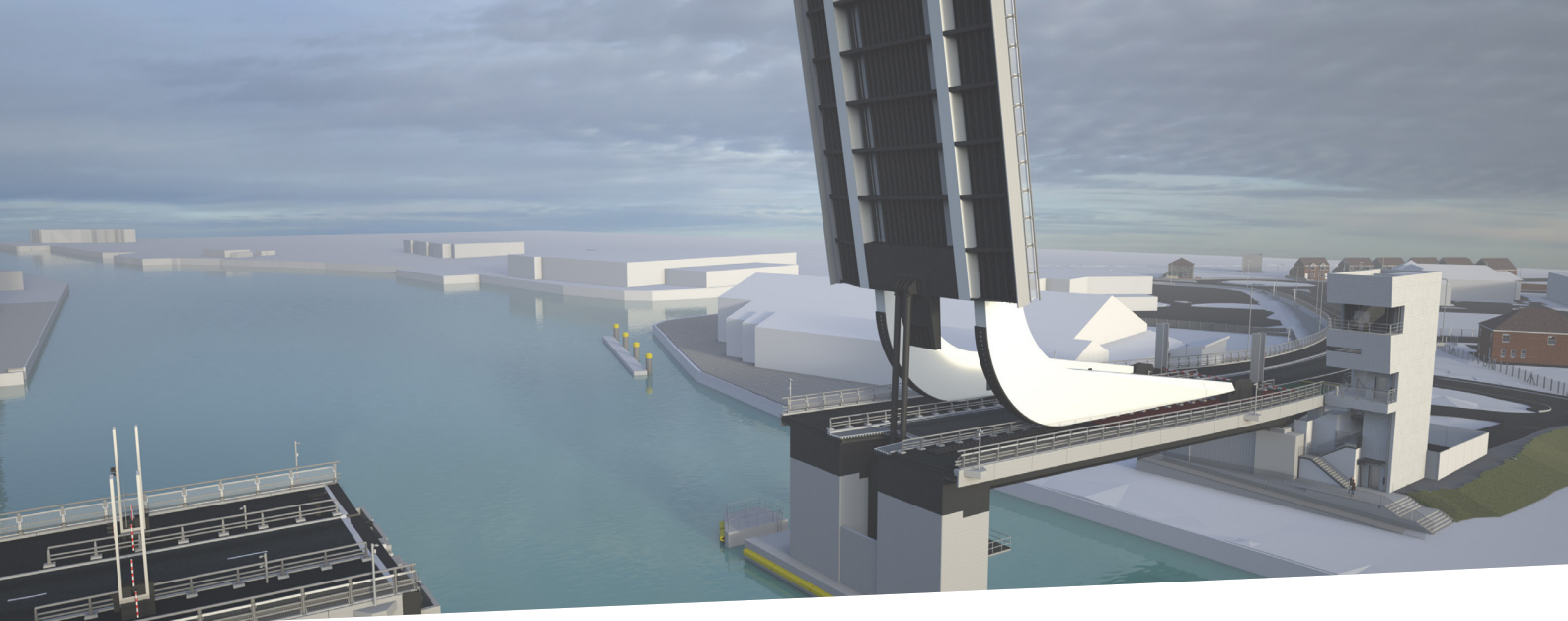


50 local employment and training opportunities

Farrans to build the Gull Wing

How the Gull Wing got its name

Preliminary work begins



Gull Wing is go!

Since the last newsletter, many significant milestones have been achieved: The bridge has been named by local school children, Suffolk County Council's Cabinet has approved the project's final budget and approved the award of the construction contract, and archaeological work has begun on site ahead of building beginning in Spring of 2021.

With the full backing of my Cabinet, we can now get this bridge built for Lowestoft and for Suffolk. For every £1 that we spend on the bridge, the region will see £3 in economic benefit - that's an incredible return.



Councillor Matthew Hicks
Leader of Suffolk County Council

The benefits of this bridge will be felt by the people of Lowestoft and beyond, with jobs and apprenticeships created during, and after, the construction period. Local businesses have told us that they expect to increase their turnover and employ more staff, and other companies will discover that being based in Lowestoft is an even more attractive option, with vastly improved traffic movement and access.

"Lowestoft residents have been waiting a lifetime to see the bridge become a reality, and in just a few years I hope they will be able to walk across it, we are working towards opening the bridge in the summer of 2023."



Peter Aldous
Member of Parliament for Waveney

"A Third Crossing of Lake Lothing has been needed for a long time and has been eagerly awaited by people and businesses in Lowestoft as it will bring so many benefits to the local area. Covid-19 has presented additional challenges, though it has reinforced the need for the Third Crossing, which will play a key role in ensuring an exciting future for Lowestoft. I look forward to continuing to work with Suffolk County Council and all other interested parties to make the most of this great opportunity."



Steve Gallant
Leader of East Suffolk Council

"This is a really welcome moment now that everything has been made official. With our Masterplan ambitions and being able to protect businesses and residents from flooding for 100 years, Lowestoft will be increasingly important to Suffolk and beyond. Giving the bridge its name is a statement of intent for the project and for the future of the town. We are building for our future, so it is entirely appropriate that the bridge has been named by our younger residents."



Preliminary work begins on Lowestoft's Gull Wing

Preparations for Lowestoft's new Gull Wing bridge have started with an archaeological survey.

Now that Suffolk County Council's Cabinet has given the final green light for the project, Suffolk-based company, Archaeological Solutions Ltd, is digging trial trenches to find out if there are any archaeological remains relating to activity on the river's edge.

There are deep layers of more recent material beneath the current site surface, which was bought in to level the site.

A council spokesperson said:

"We are undertaking this archaeological work at the earliest possible stage, so that we give ourselves plenty of time to manage anything that might be discovered. This means that we can keep to our timetable of beginning construction work in Spring 2021."

An archaeological survey of the site is a formal requirement before any works on the main construction can start. The council's own Archaeology Service will oversee the works to ensure that the site is properly mapped and any finds are recorded.

Farrans to build the Gull Wing



Suffolk County Council has announced that leading building and civil engineering contractor, Farrans, has been appointed to construct the Gull Wing. More than 50 local employment and training opportunities will be created by Farrans and the wider supply chain.

Jonny Kerr, operations director for Farrans' Civil Engineering Division, said:

"We're delighted to be involved with the Gull Wing, which is going to mean a great deal to the local community. It is even more exciting to be working on such an iconic structure."

"The Gull Wing bridge will offer in excess of 50 employment and training opportunities for the local area through ourselves and our supply chain to leave a lasting legacy within Suffolk. In the last 20 years we have completed 24 projects for Suffolk County Council, including Lowestoft North Fire Station and Lowestoft South Fire Station."

"We will of course be building the bridge, but our presence in Lowestoft will be much more than that. We will be working with local schools to involve children in the project and launching apprenticeships for local people."

"I'm also hoping that we will receive interest from plenty of local and regional businesses, to be part of the supply chain to construct the Gull Wing."

How the Gull Wing got its name

Following a competition across all local schools in the area, **Somerleyton Primary School** pupils including Jack and Hayden (pictured) thought up the name, Gull Wing. Local children submitted many ideas, with 22 being presented to a panel of representatives from the town, district and county councils and local organisations, led by Peter Aldous MP.



Headteacher, Louise Spall,

explains the children's thinking behind the name:

"The children wanted to come up with a name which reflected living by the seaside, but they also thought that the shape of bridge was really interesting. The V-shape of the new bridge looks like a bird's wings and, of course, what seaside town is complete without gulls!"

"They are really excited that their name is going to be part of Lowestoft's history, it is something they can be proud of and tell their children in years to come."



Peter Aldous

Member of Parliament
for Waveney

"We'd like to thank all the children who gave their suggestions, there were some really interesting choices and clearly a lot of thought had gone into them."

"When we all looked at the list, Gull Wing jumped out at us straight away. We were looking for a name with a local context which had some meaning to it, but which would also be snappy and descriptive so people will use it."

"Many congratulations to the pupils from Somerleyton Primary School. When the bridge is open, they will be able to walk and cycle over it, knowing that they gave it its name. And who knows, when they are older, maybe drive their electric car over it too!"

FIND OUT MORE

Email: gullwing@suffolk.gov.uk

Web: www.suffolk.gov.uk/gullwing

Call: 0345 606 6171 (open Mon-Fri 8.30am-5.30pm)

If you need help to understand this information in another language please call 03456 066 067.

Se precisar de ajuda para ler estas informações em outra língua, por favor telefone para o número abaixo. 03456 066 067

Portuguese

Jeżeli potrzebujesz pomocy w zrozumieniu tych informacji w swoim języku zadzwoń na podany poniżej numer. 03456 066 067

Polish

এই লেখাটি যদি অন্য ভাষাতে বুঝতে চান তাহলে নিচের নম্বরে ফোন করুন 03456 066 067

Bengali

Jeigu jums reikia šios informacijos kita kalba, paskambinkite 03456 066 067

Lithuanian

Dacă aveți nevoie de ajutor pentru a înțelege această informație într-o altă limbă, vă rugăm să telefonați la numărul 03456 066 067

Romanian

Если для того чтобы понять эту информацию Вам нужна помощь на другом языке, позвоните, пожалуйста, по телефону 03456 066 067

Russian

If you would like more information in another format, including audio or large print, please call 03456 066 067.

