



## County Council Report for Walsham-Willows Parish Council

January 2018

By County Councillor Jessica Fleming, Hartismere Division, Suffolk

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**School Transport** – Reminder about this consultation which seeks views on three alternative options for pre-and post-16 age groups. Please refer to: [www.suffolk.gov.uk/schooltravel](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/schooltravel)

The Council is also requesting feedback on use of Rights of Way in its home to school eligibility distance calculations at primary and secondary levels and at local solutions for school transport.

**Business Rates Retention Pilot** – Suffolk is one of 10 pilot areas in England to retain 100% of business rates from Council Tax starting in 2018/19. Business Rates are intended to contribute more to local income the future and this is an opportunity for Suffolk to influence how this programme will operate in a two-tier system.

**Highways.** Reminder to report all defects on:– <http://highwaysreporting.suffok.gov.uk> for other highways matters refer to <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/> To follow up on a fault/report telephone 0345 606 6171 with the log reference number to hand. If follow up is still needed then please contact your County Councillor.



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**Public Access**—Public access is available at 54 Ipswich Street, Stowmarket. Please note that it is best to ring ahead to ensure that someone is there who has the expertise to assist, 0300-123-4000.

**Mid Suffolk & Babergh Councils' Future** –Reminder – Mid Suffolk' is running a public consultation concerning proposals to form a new combined council. Please refer to:

[www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/onecouncil](http://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/onecouncil)

An online survey is also open: [www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/OneCouncil](http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/OneCouncil)

A dedicated email address has been set up for responses: [one.council@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:one.council@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk)

**New Leader for Babergh District Council** - Cllr John Ward was elected leader on 4<sup>th</sup> January. It is now likely that Babergh will undertake a referendum on the Council's future. Given the time needed to complete this process any new authority is unlikely to be constituted until after the 2019 local elections.

**Power Cuts** – If bad weather hits you can report or check on power connections, or register elderly or vulnerable people on the Priority Service to avoid unexpected power loss on [www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk](http://www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk) or:

- Call 105 to report power cuts and damage to the electricity network, or 0800 3163 105 (from a corded phone or mobile phone if you have no power)
- Visit [www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk/powercut](http://www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk/powercut) and type in their postcode to view our live power cut map

**Planning Applications** – Dates remain to be confirmed for determining both Newhall Properties, Outline for 62 dwellings 1352/17 and Evolution Town Planning, Land opposite Broad Meadows, Outline for 22 dwellings. DC/17/02783. Dialogue about Moriarty's Café is ongoing, the current deadline for comments is 24<sup>th</sup> January but this may be further extended.

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