

## **District Councillor's Report – Oct 2022**

### **Councils set out parking strategy for the next 20 years**

Supporting the needs of local trade and residents, while putting the brakes on climate change – Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils have set out their plans for improved parking provision for the next 20 years.

The councils' first ever joint parking strategy includes prioritised recommendations to improve all types of parking, from council-owned car parks to on-street parking. These include updating signage and markings, increasing safety provisions, providing more EV charging and cycling facilities, and introducing resident permit schemes to allow overnight parking.

It has been created based on feedback from residents', town and parish councils, as well as other community groups and partners. Over the course of two consultation periods, more than 3,000 people responded to online surveys sharing their parking experiences and commenting on the recommendations, ahead of the strategy going to cabinets for approval. 175 people also attended in-person roadshow events in June, giving everyone an opportunity to have their say.

The strategy builds on the councils' Joint Area Parking Management Plan, and the car parking study report for Babergh, which highlighted the increasing need for a medium to long term parking strategy. Importantly, it also seeks to find the balance between supporting local trade across the districts and achieving climate change and sustainable travel goals, reflecting the councils' recently approved Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan.

<https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/the-council/consultations/current-consultations/parking-strategy/>

### **Bird flu outbreak**

The latest information on the recent bird flu outbreak in Suffolk can be found at:

<https://www.babergh.gov.uk/news/bird-flu-detected-in-nedging/#:~:text=The%20Animal%20Plant,birds%20to%20Defra.>

### **Latest CIL funding sees thousands ploughed back into communities.**

More than £420,000 in developer contributions is to be ploughed back into communities – funding a study into Thurston railway station, the renovation of Gainsborough's House, and improved play equipment and bus facilities for villages.

The levy is a legal requirement paid by developers of residential sites in the district. Every six months, the councils consider the bids made for CIL funding, earmarked for projects to help local infrastructure keep pace with development. This latest allocation is the ninth round of CIL funding and brings the total allocation delivered to the districts to more than £11m since May 2018. Examples of Projects funded include:

- Community Bus Parking Area, Sudbury - Improving CCTV provision, Sudbury - £5,416.21
- This latest investment in CCTV at the Kingfisher Leisure Centre - £2,024.72
- Case Lane Playing Field, Bentley - £5,706.00
- Recreation Ground Entrance and Picnic Tables, Botesdale - £9,757.50
- Play Area, Ringshall - £20,566.35
- Bus Shelter Provision, Cockfield - £25,028.08
- Capel St Mary's playground equipment and the expansion of their car park - £100,000
- Feasibility study at Thurston railway station - £100,000

### **A chance to stand for what you believe in**

Residents across Babergh and Mid Suffolk are being encouraged to consider adding their name to the ballot and stand as a district councillor next May.

<https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/news/a-chance-to-stand-for-what-you-believe-in/>

Regards

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