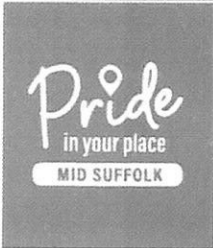


District Councillor Report: Walsham Le Willows Parish Council

August 2023

	<p>Mid Suffolk District Council has launched a campaign to clean-up neighbourhoods, build community pride and tackle the doorstep issues that voters said mattered to them. The new 'Pride in Your Place' campaign will give every town and village the opportunity to apply for funding for projects which improve the appearance and cleanliness of their community.</p> <p>Once awarded, the money can be used for initiatives like litter picking, sign cleaning, graffiti removal, the maintenance/enhancement of open public spaces and more.</p> <p>These projects will complement routine grounds and maintenance work already carried out by the council and partner authorities, but Mid Suffolk's new administration also wants to help communities to tackle local frustrations and issues that voters said were important to them during the recent local elections.</p> <p>Under the funding scheme, parishes with a population over 1,500 are eligible to apply for up to £400 in funding. For those with a population below 1,500, up to £250 can be applied for. Applications can also be made by voluntary, community and social enterprises with support from their local town or parish council. They must be received by the council by 31 October 2023 and awards and payments will be made within 21 days of receipt of an eligible application.</p>
<p>Annual Canvas & Residents' Survey</p>	<p>MSDC's annual canvas of every household is now underway; completing the form online or on paper ensures that those of us eligible to vote can do so.</p> <p>A representative mix of around 1 in 12 people across Mid Suffolk and Babergh are also currently receiving a Residents' Survey, seeking their views on a range of subjects such as local facilities, their local community, internet access, and wellbeing – results will be available in November.</p>
<p>MSDC Meetings</p>	<p>The last full Council meeting was successfully held at the Blackbourne Community Centre in Elmswell on 19th July. A previous Cabinet meeting was held at the John Peel Centre in Stowmarket and it is good to get our meetings out into the district.</p>
<p>Greenhouse Gas report 2021-22</p>	<p>Local Authorities have to publish an annual Greenhouse Gas Report highlighting the greenhouse gas emissions and carbon footprint relating to their estate and operations. The report was discussed by full Council on 19th July and it was agreed to set up a 'Task and Finish' panel to review activities to help reach the net-zero target in 2030.</p>
<p>Review of Elections in May 2023</p>	<p>Mid Suffolk District Council (MSDC) discussed the issues relating to the administration of the Elections on 4th May. The Chief Executive commissioned both an internal and an external review of the processes. There had been issues relating to the receipt, processing and communication of the 1500 candidate nominations, and some of the Statements of Persons Nominated were incorrect and had to be republished. Despite these errors, no bearing on the election results was found. Lessons have been learnt and officers are planning early for the next set of elections – the Police and Crime Commissioner elections next May.</p>
<p>Norwich to Tilbury National Grid proposals</p>	<p>A consultation event was held at the Blackbourne last month regarding the proposed line of pylons from Norwich to Tilbury. Any member of the public can respond to the consultation at https://www.nationalgrid.com/electricity-transmission/network-andinfrastructure/infrastructure-projects/norwich-to-tilbury</p> <p>MSDC agreed at the last council meeting to write to the Government to formally object to the scheme, because of its far-reaching impact on local communities.</p>

Solar farms

Cllr Mellen as leader of MSDC spoke at the LGA conference at Bournemouth last week, suggesting that the Government should provide a clear national framework for the development of solar farms. There needs to be a balance between delivering renewable energy, food production and protecting our valuable landscape.

Cllr Richard Winch

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County Councillor Report

August 2023



Walsham-le-Willows Parish Council

Shepherd's Grove, Stanton Co-Part and Equation Developments – I have been in communication with SCC Head of Planning James Cutting who has made the following recent comments: *there has been limited discussion with Equation, who are relying on the access proposals that have been submitted by Jaynic.*

SCC maintains a holding objection to Co-Part DC/22/2190/HYB (3 March 23). The application has not proposed a safe sustainable travel route between Stanton and Shepherds Grove which was a Master Plan requirement.

In response to the applicant's request to enter into a S278/S38 for the roundabout and spine road in advance of planning permission being granted, Sam has requested a stage 2 Safety Audit in February, but one has not been provided yet.

While there has been some agreement in principle and support for the highway benefits, there are some unresolved elements.

As you are aware, Equation is preparing planning documents including and Environmental Statement for the warehousing proposals, and the Co-Part application is pending a committee date.

Non-statutory Consultation by National Grid – This non-statutory consultation on the Norwich to Tilbury pylon scheme is ongoing, consultation remains open until 21st August. NG is holding online webinars with details of the proposals followed by an opportunity for public question. The Offset Group of Essex, Suffolk and Norfolk MPs who are pressing for an off shore route are scheduled to meet with Grant Schapps, the Energy Minister in mid September. Please refer to nationalgrid.com/norwich-to-tilbury

Date of Webinar	Time
Saturday 12 August	10-11am
Thursday 17 August	10-11am

Comments may also usefully be shared with Member of Parliament Jo Churchill:
jo.churchill.mp@parliament.uk

Cllr Jessica Fleming: Jessica.fleming@midsuffolk.gov.uk Tel: 07714-597980 Twitter: @jesstfleming