

NOV 2018

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Full Council meeting 23rd October 2018.

The council agreed by majority to the new £3m land an investment fund which Babergh officers will manage.

It was confirmed that Carter Jonas has been commissioned to look into options for the Delphi site, meanwhile the Greater Anglia LEP has joined with local MP James Cartlidge, Babergh officers and members and other interested parties to try and encourage high skilled employers to the site, particularly those in precision engineering.

Members were informed about a Babergh taskforce that is looking into the regeneration of the Borehamgate area in Sudbury.

I would like to remind you that full reports from past Council and Cabinet Meetings, can be found online at:

Babergh: <http://baberghmidsuffolk.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=521&Mid=1017>

Mid Suffolk: <http://baberghmidsuffolk.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=522&Mid=1029>

LONG STANDING OFFICER RETIRES

Linda Sheppard the Senior Governance Support Officer who has worked at Babergh since 1986 retires on 27th November 2018. Linda has been a wonderful employee at Babergh and is vital to new members (as I was 4 years ago) – her support, help and knowledge is invaluable and she will be sorely missed.

BABERGH STARS AWARDS NIGHT & OTHER AWARDS

We are blessed in Lavenham to have so many talented people, whether as volunteers or as business leaders.

At the Babergh Stars awards night we saw many people from the village deservedly awarded recognition for the efforts:

- Community Project of the Year Award – Lavenham Community Land Trust
- Special Recognition - Caroll Reeve, Lavenham community volunteer
- Business Growth Award - Suffolk Market Events (who run the Lavenham Farmers Mkt)

In addition to Babergh stars, our local butchers have been at the awards again. They finished 3rd in the National Best Game Meat Butcher in the county award and followed this up with a runners up spot in the National best retailers OFM awards and now have been shortlisted for the Countryside Alliance Rural Oscar awards.

Well done to everyone and good luck to the Butchers for the Rural Oscars.

MENTAL HEALTH

Babergh will become the first district / borough council in Suffolk to sign the Local Councils' Mental Health Challenge. The council will appoint not one but two members of staff to act as lead officers, one for internal work with Babergh staff and one for work with communities in the district - the motion was passed unanimously.

The Local Councils' Mental Health Challenge aims to encourage local authorities to take a proactive approach to this critical issue and work to promote wellbeing and mental health in their districts.

The Member Champion will be appointed shortly and their details will be available on the Mental Health Challenge website.

HADLEIGH LESUIRE CENTRE

Hadleigh Leisure centre was granted permission for its extension on 19th September.

LAVENHAM TIC

The Parish Council are continuing in their work to purchase the old Tourist Information Centre and their intention to turn it into a community hub.

BEAUTY GALLERY

I was delighted to be invited to the official opening of the new premises for long standing Lavenham business 'The Beauty Gallery'. They have expanded to larger premises as Lavenham becomes ever more popular as a destination with both locals and tourists for a variety of services and shops and we wish them well in their new location.

WATER STREET

After nearly 4 years of battling with Suffolk Highways it looks like we may finally have a commitment from them for the temporary weight restriction to start in Water Street in January 2019.