

JUNE 2017

DISTRICT COUNCIL MEETING

The Annual Full Council was held on 23rd May 2017 where the main business was new positions. Jennie Jenkins carries on as Leader of the council with Jan Osborne as deputy leader. Peter Burgoyne continues as chair of the council and Nick Ridley takes over as chair of planning with Adrian Osborne as Vice Chair.

LORRIES IN LAVENHAM

The highways team at Suffolk County Council had provisionally given us a date for the Water Street weight restriction to start, being the end of May. Unfortunately they seemed to have missed this date but I will keep the pressure on them to get this up and running as soon as possible.

BABERGH & MID SUFFOLK SERVICE PROGRAMME

New planning applications website is as follows and will be available in part from 12th May 2017 and in full from 5th June 2016:

<https://planning.baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk/online-applications/>

Any of you who wish to comment on a current planning application not via the above site may continue to do so by emailing planning@babberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk or write to:

Planning Department
Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils
131 High Street
Needham Market
Suffolk IP6 8DL

As a reminder the council office business will be fully operation in Endeavour House in Ipswich in September. The Hadleigh office will no longer be used from this date onwards.

Also Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils have launched their new website and phone number, delivering new, easier ways for residents to access Council Services.

Following councillors voting to adopt a new Public Access Strategy last September the new phone number is 0300 123 4000.

The new website is available at:

<http://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk> or <http://www.babergh.gov.uk>

Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA)

The SHMA is a key piece of evidence which will underpin the new Joint Local Plan which will take the authority up to the year 2036. The SHMA comprises two reports.

- Part 1 identifies the objectively assessed need for new homes across the districts, the Ipswich Housing Market Area and the Waveney Housing Market Area.
- Part 2 identifies the need for affordable housing provision, and the mix and type of housing required.

Part 1 of the SHMA identifies the Objectively Assessed Need (OAN) for housing. Part 1 concludes the OAN for Babergh and Mid Suffolk as shown below:

Total	OAN 2014 - 36	Annualised OAN 2014 - 36
Babergh	7,820	355
Mid Suffolk	9,951	452

The methodology behind the figures will be explained by Cathy Hall from Peter Brett Associates at the forthcoming Member presentations.

Whilst the information in the SHMA provides key evidence which will inform the production of the new Joint Local Plan, its publication has potential implications relation to the 5 year supply of housing land which may also be calculated in respect of the new figure. This may be taken into account when applications for housing are being considered for determination. Further details on this will be given by the Babergh officers and guidance on decision making will be given in due course.

The Council is undertaking a new Joint Local Plan for Babergh and Mid Suffolk districts. This will include a new and common settlement hierarchy which recognises the similarities of the settlement types in each area. The new settlement hierarchy has been based upon an up-to-date assessment of facilities and services across all communities. In addition, the Strategic Planning team have reviewed all of the historic settlement boundaries and potential development sites put forward in the previous 'call for sites' process.

Officers will brief Members on the new settlement hierarchy categories, the proposed approach to new growth in the categories and present draft maps showing revised settlement boundaries and development site options in the near future. I will report back when I know more and have been briefed.

SHELTERED HOUSING

Unfortunately one of the Sheltered scheme managers who job shares at Lavenham has recently resigned and leaves her post this week. This means another staff change very quickly into the new service, but unfortunately, circumstances such as these are beyond control.

Therefore, from 1st June, Lynda Day will be the full-time scheme manager with responsibility for Lavenham. Lynda is very experienced in working with older persons and she has a lot of knowledge and expertise. I hope this will benefit those residents who require the visits.

If you are at all worried about the proposal please contact Heather Sparrow on 01449 72476 or email heather.sparrow@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk

COMMUNITIES BUILDINGS ADVICE SERVICE

The Community Buildings and Advice Service is provided by Suffolk Climate Change Partnership. This is a free impartial service, if you are interested in taking advantage of this; please contact John Taylor on 01473 264595 or email john.taylor3@suffolk.gov.uk

CITIZENS ADVISE BUREAU

Sudbury & District Citizen's Advice Bureau is will be offering a drop-in session in Lavenham village hall, 9.30am-12.30pm on the second Wednesday of every month.

<http://www.sudburycab.org.uk/home.html>

LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP (LEP)

The LEP is able to offer help for local businesses at www.newangliagrowthhub.co.uk. This is via the EU Development Fund.

PCC MEETINGS

The Police and Crime Commissioner, Tim Passmore launches his 2017 series of public meetings across the county. The closest meetings to us are:

Tuesday 12th September – Bury St Edmunds (Southgate Centre IP33 2QA)

Wednesday 20th September – Sudbury (Sudbury Town Hall CO10 1TL)