

District Councillor Report: Debenham Ward – Dec 2023
Serving Ashfield-cum-Thorpe, Aspall, Bedingfield, Debenham, Kenton & Winston
Cllr Teresa Davis teresa.davis@midsuffolk.gov.uk

<p>Storm Babet Grants Council Tax Business Rates</p>	<p>Update: <u>Grants</u> Mid Suffolk are now in the process of contacting residents who reported their homes or/and businesses on the Suffolk County reporting map. If you have not already, please report any flooding on this reporting map on the Suffolk County website as we have a deadline for payment imposed by national government. The £500 residential grant is being paid along with an initial three month credit for Council Tax. If you have reported your home to Suffolk County Council and not yet received a telephone call from Mid Suffolk Council please let me know directly and I will look into it for you. The £2,500 business grant is being paid along with an initial three month credit for business rates for all those businesses who had water enter their active business premises. For both Residents and Business, a simple claim form, like a declaration, will be sent following the telephone call so that payment can be made, if you find this difficult then a customer service agent can complete this for you over the telephone, so please ask them. Some businesses are also able to claim for loss of earnings, eg: for things such as being cut off due to surrounding flood water from 12 noon till the morning on 20th October for Debenham – this will require more information to be provided by the business. Please contact our Customer Service team who will help you further. <u>Public Forum for Flooding</u> I am waiting for Suffolk County Council to contact me/Mid Suffolk regarding this.</p>
<p>Cabinet/Council News</p>	<p><u>Mid Suffolk are calling for land from local landowners</u> Mid Suffolk District Council are working with the Woodland Trust and calling for land which could be planted on or improved for nature. Of particular interest, is land of less agricultural value, near or next to land that may already be good for wildlife (woods, wetlands, meadows, heathland), or that can help join up other existing habitats, helping wildlife move more easily through the landscape. It comes after the council identified that just 8% of Mid Suffolk is covered by trees. <u>Cosy Homes – insulation project</u> Cosy Homes has been launched by Mid Suffolk to provide £2 million pounds of funding to help households get insulated. Household income must be less than £60,000 a year, the homes EPC must be less than a C and savings must be less than £16,000 for households to qualify. Our insulation provider is excellent and trusted. If you are interested in this, please get in touch or search using ‘cosy homes’ on our Mid Suffolk Home page. Thank you to all those residents, businesses and community groups who have been in touch. Please continue to do so and hopefully we will get things working for you and Mid Suffolk will endeavour to provide a gold standard service. My contact details are as above. All the best Teresa</p>