

District Councillor Report: Debenham Ward – Jan 2024

Serving Ashfield-cum-Thorpe, Aspell, Beddingfield, Debenham, Kenton & Winston

Cllr Teresa Davis teresa.davis@midsuffolk.gov.uk

<p>Flooding Update:</p>	<p><u>Grants</u></p> <p>If you have not already, please report any flooding from Storm Babet on the Suffolk County Council reporting map on the Suffolk County website as we are now nearing the deadline for payment of grants set by national government. Our Teams have not had any information sent to them by the County Council since 15th Dec for Residential homes and since November for Businesses, so if you are expecting a call and have not had one please get in touch. Whilst the grant application for residences is quite quick, the process for business is not. 67 businesses have however been contacted by Mid Suffolk, 25 have completed an application and 8 have received a payment. This business grant application is strict criteria set out by national government which becomes complex if you are a business in a residence or do not have flood insurance– so please apply as soon as possible. If you are having problems then a customer service agent can help, just call our helpline on 0300 123 4000 or send me an email.</p> <p><u>Public Forum for Flooding</u></p> <p>Having spoken to both the Environment Agency and the County Council I am pleased to confirm that a public forum is being set up to take place on Friday 26th January at Debenham Community Centre. I am hoping that all who want to, will attend. Two identical forums will take place, one from 1-3pm and one from 5-7pm, with the Environment Agency providing a presentation on what happened followed by a Question and Answer session for anyone to ask questions to the Environment Agency, County Council, or District Council.</p>
<p>Cabinet/Council News</p>	<p><u>Mid Suffolk in January</u></p> <p>Mid Suffolk District Cabinet are meeting on 9th January to agree the Mid Suffolk Plan for the next four years following the recent consultation. An empty homes and second home policy is looking to be agreed following the recent changes made by national government. A review of Fees and Charges is also being looked at to ensure services are being charged at cost or near to with the aim of ensuring we are moving towards this with a minimum of shock to smaller councils, businesses and different licence holders.</p> <p>The SHELF (Stowmarket Health, Education and Leisure Facilities) project will also be discussed and the business plan agreed.</p> <p>Anyone is welcome to attend, and it is also live on ‘You Tube’ for those who want to attend virtually. A link to the agenda and papers can be found on our website or by searching ‘Mid Suffolk Cabinet Meeting January 2024’.</p> <p>My contact details are as above, please use them if you need me.</p> <p>Here’s to a successful 2024.</p> <p>Teresa</p>