

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

<p>Storm Babet & Flooding</p>	<p>Over the last few weeks of October we have had an unprecedented amount of rain in a very short space of time. I have spoken to many residents and local business and it is a huge upheaval for many - that will be ongoing in the months ahead for those who's homes and businesses were flooded. Mid Suffolk have provided a collection service for flooded items, opened a line of communication with the Parish council and our housing team to ensure people had somewhere to go as well as organising the Citizens Advice Bureau to attend Dove cottage to give advice to those impacted. However, this is nothing compared to the effect of the volunteers and the response of the whole community for showing how community support can surmount an unprecedented event of this kind. As the flood lead, Suffolk County Council are asking for all those who experienced flooding to report their property online. Government have confirmed funding will be available however we are waiting on how this funding is to be applied for. Should anyone need 1-2-1 impartial advice (and this isn't restricted to flooding) we have arranged with Debenham Parish Council for the Citizens Advice Bureau to attend Dove Cottage every Monday during November. I will be distributing posters over Debenham Ward, please let me know if you would like one. If successful and helpful for our ward, this might become a more permanent fixture.</p> <p>In light of the storm I am also liaising with officers and via them the JPEU (Joint Partnership Emergency Unit) and more directly with the environment Agency (EA) to look at holding a public forum for parish council's, meetings, residents, local schools, business and anyone feeling affected who would like to talk about future mitigation and find out what actually happened. I will forward a date nearer the time.</p> <p>In the meantime, please register your flooded property on the Suffolk County Council's reporting map and remember to select flooding of property as I am sure this will help with grants and funding announced by the Government.</p> <p>If anyone needs us to collect flooded items, the collection service is now bookable via our website home page on the Storm Babet & Ciaran banner link or you can phone our customer service team who are primed to help you make a booking.</p> <p>All links including the County Council reporting link can be found on the mid Suffolk website, as well as details of the government funding. Go to www.midsuffolk.gov.uk and click on the banner.</p>
<p>Cabinet/Council News</p>	<p><u>Have Your Say – Consultation open asking for your priorities for Mid Suffolk</u> Mid Suffolk have launched what they feel are the priorities for the next 4yrs or more. However, we are asking all of Mid Suffolk to let us know what you think of these priorities and if you agree.</p> <p>Teething problems of the form online have been highlighted and it is important to note that the boxes provided will 'grow as you type' so do not be deceived by a small box, type as many comments as you want to. Should anyone need a paper copy I can provide these as well and will leave some in the Library. Please go to https://babergbandmidsuffolk.citizenlab.co/en-GB/projects/setting-the-future-direction-of-your-councils and have your say.</p>