

District Councillors report 16 October 2022

With the heating and energy crisis on everyone's mind it is to be noted that Babergh and Mid Suffolk are looking to pool resources to retrofit where possible some 40k council houses to make them more energy efficient.

There are many initiatives and websites giving guidance and help with regard to, for example, reducing every day living costs and the Anglia Care Trust has a brochure offering lots of hints and tips. It covers things such as gas/electricity, water food, internet TV land line, subscriptions fuel and Insurances. I can send a link to the Debenham Parish Council who may like to put it on their facebook page. The Coffee Caravan is also a good way of discovering all these sorts of initiatives.

Another one is [www.warmhomesuffolk.org](http://www.warmhomesuffolk.org) website and offers advice and the possibility of grants (warm homes fund grant) tel 03456 037686

Gateway 14 has received the next stage for the planning permissions and MSDC is pleased to advise that 'The Range' a garden supplier has taken up a large space (1.2m sq feet) and it is hoped up to 1650 jobs will be created. This is on a designated freeport site and it is anticipated that might be upgraded to be included in a bid for Investment zones. The aim of an IZ is to drive growth with sites benefitting from tax incentives and wider support for the local economy. We wait to see if the bid is successful.

The Angel pub is once again up for sale but does have a current Asset of Community Value and the moratorium for the group who put it forward has a 6 week period to make their offer.

Debenham has been allocated £6709 of CIL monies and I would be interested, as will the community I am sure, to know how that money might be allocated.

A reminder that Flu and Covid jabs are now available and relevant age groups have been called up by the local GP practice who once again along with the DLC we must thank them for their expertise and prompt attention.

There are several medium to large planning issues coming forward and where permissions have been granted they are currently in line with the Debenham Neighbourhood Plan. I must remind everyone this may be deemed to be out of date as it is a living document and needs to be updated.

The cross Green Car park will soon be repaired and spaces marked out.

Although a bit early for notification MSDC will be closed for business Monday 26<sup>th</sup> December, Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> December but open for all other times over the Christmas Holiday. It will also be closed on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2023 – where has the year gone?

Kathie Guthrie

District Councillor for Debenham Ward.

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