

The development on Land East of Aspall road for 54 dwellings has finally been signed off. Some time ago a resident overheard a discussion between officers regarding the planned footway. The LPA (local Planning Authority) were brought into these discussions which were originally only between the EA and the developer. However all matters have now been concluded to a satisfactory conclusion and the original design can go ahead.

The cost of living crisis and fuel poverty is on everyone's mind I am sure and no matter what anyone does or say there is always opposition to it. Although the BBC and general understanding seems to focus on the disastrous effort of Liz Truss we really cannot forget the impact Covid and latterly the war in Ukraine, instigated by Russia, has had on, not only our economy, but a world economy.

That said MSDC had funding for applicants to provide a warm room. Despite my, and the chair of the Debenham Leisure Centre, being first out of the blocks to apply for this and discover their links to the application form didn't work unfortunately the DLC was not successful in the Bid. To say I am disappointed is an understatement.

I understand those people who heat their houses by oil should get £200 towards this but how and when I don't know.

As you know the current Council tax was pegged at the rate for the previous year and that has been down to prudent investment and close analysis of the budget. MSDC is in a fortunate position and although they had to dip into reserves and also bring forward £500k brought forward from the previous year, currently the council is still able to forecast a very comfortable surplus outturn although there is no room for complacency. Many other district and borough councils will not be in this fortunate position.

With our workforce being a shared workforce with Babergh District Council, who are in a less fortunate financial position, this could raise challenges as we start to develop the budget for the forthcoming year 2023/24. Mid Suffolk aspires to keep council tax as low as possible whilst maintaining long term stability.

The results of the naming of the new fleet of refuse wagons will be announced shortly

Bird Flu is continuing to decimate our local bird production and soon it may have an impact on egg supply. It is devastating to the industry . If captive birds display worrying symptoms please report them by calling 03000200301 and note they should all be kept inside. If you see dead wild birds please call Defra on 03459335577.

The Boundary review is now into its second phase and you may be pleased to know it is proposed that the whole of the Debenham ward remains in Mid Suffolk. It is also proposed Mendlesham, Eye, and Stradbroke will move to Waveney Valley.

Babergh and Mid Suffolk Councils have approved a new Tenant Engagement Strategy which will give tenants more opportunity to be involved in decisions about their homes and a place they can be proud to call their home. There will be Telephone and online surveys on a monthly basis on tenants who have received or requested on of the councils' key services, moving into one of the council homes, reporting a repair or making an anti social behaviour complaint. There will also be an annual tenant satisfaction survey which will be published (anonymised) on the council website for transparency

