

Gislingham Ward Mellis, Gislingham, Thornham, `Wortham & Burgate, Wickham Skeith Parish Councils

District Councillor's Report:

June 2025

Annual Council Meeting	The annual council meeting for Mid Suffolk District Council took place on the 15 th May, and confirmed new appointments for the council. This included the appointment of Cllr Keith Scarff Lib Dem as Chair of the council, and Cllr Lorraine Baker Green as Vice Chair.
Devolution and local government re-organisation update	<p>The council has received a response from central government in regards to its proposed plans for council re-organisation. The response was welcome to the proposal to have multiple unitaries, although the actual number is still down to the councils. A survey has additionally been released and will run until July 27th which allows residents across Suffolk to voice their opinions and concerns.</p> <p>Project: Have Your Say on the Future of Local Government... Mid Suffolk District Council</p> <p>On Wednesday there was a meeting between MSDC Officers and Council Members to consider the implications of two and three unitary authorities on council boundaries. The opinions expressed together with resident's responses to the survey will go towards shaping the combined District and Borough Councils' submission in September.</p> <p>Suffolk County Council are the only council proposing something that doesn't radically change their existing organisation. Everyone else recognises the need for change after 50 years of the previous system to better reflect today's challenges and communities' needs; with the flexibility to continue to adapt to different needs in different places in the future.</p>
Haughley, Stowupland & Wetherden by-election	The Haughley, Stowupland & Wetherden by-election took place on the 12 th June, with 3 candidates (Conservative, Labour, and Green). Dr Agnes Martin, Green Party was duly elected with 64.1% of the vote.
A new street cleaning taskforce has hit the streets of Mid Suffolk to tackle litter, fly tipping, and graffiti across the district	<p>Mid Suffolk District Council's new 'respond, enforce and clean team' - REACT - have hit the district's roads.</p> <p>The two-strong team are 'first responders' to reactive cleansing incidents such as fly tipping, littering and graffiti across Mid Suffolk and are easy to spot in their special REACT van.</p> <p>As well as tackling issues, they will also play a role in education and enforcement.</p> <p>REACT increases the council's capacity to respond to urgent and reactive street cleaning issues across the district.</p>

	<p>The new service is being funded through £360K of re-invested income from Gateway 14 - the council-owned business, innovation, and logistics park in Stowmarket.</p> <p>To report fly tipping, graffiti or littering go to: https://www.babergh.gov.uk/report-online</p>
Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIP)	<p>Elmswell and Woolpit are to be connected by a new footpath and cycle way thanks to £3m of funding from Mid Suffolk District Council – adding to almost half a million already invested towards new walking and cycling schemes across the district.</p> <p>On Tuesday (10 June), Mid Suffolk District Council’s cabinet approved £3m in Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding to go towards the new footpath and cycle way.</p> <p>It will be delivered and maintained in the future by Suffolk County Council. The scheme will link the two villages – enabling residents to safely access local services and facilities by bike or foot, rather than by car.</p> <p>The scheme is listed within both Suffolk County Council’s and Mid Suffolk District Council’s Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIP) as a key piece of active travel infrastructure.</p> <p>It is the latest in a series of cycling and walking infrastructure projects to have been made possible by funding from Mid Suffolk District Council.</p> <p>Over the last three years, a further £219,627 in CIL funding has already been approved for 13 cycling and walking infrastructure projects.</p>
MSDC Cabinet Decisions 10 th June 2025	<p>Work to build a new stand at Needham Market Football Club’s stadium will soon be underway thanks to a £100,000 award from Mid Suffolk District Council. Total Project costs for the 285 capacity stadium £344,139.</p> <p>A 75% contribution of £33,750 towards a new heating system for Rattlesden Church.</p> <p>Members of Mid Suffolk District Council’s cabinet agreed the funding at their meeting on Tuesday as they considered the latest round of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding.</p>

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