

District Councillor Report: Elmswell Parish Council

February 2021

Housing acquisitions	MSDC has purchased 97 homes on new housing developments in Haughley, Woolpit and Stowmarket. These new homes form some of the S106 affordable homes contributions from these new developments. These will help to redress the loss of council houses which have been sold under the Right to Buy scheme. Work is currently underway building more council houses on both the Middle School site and the former Council office site in Needham Market.
Waste services	<p>A new awareness campaign to get Suffolk's recycling right has been launched. A leaflet explaining what can and can't go into recycling bins will be delivered to all homes, and this will be followed up with social media and press articles. Artwork is to be put on the waste tankers. More details can be found at https://www.babergh.gov.uk/news/new-recycling-campaign-aims-to-get-suffolks-recycling-right/.</p> <p>Brown bin collections have been temporarily paused during lockdown to ensure that the Council delivers more critical services.</p>
Strategic Asset Management Plan	MSDC has approved and adopted a Strategic Asset Management Plan for 2020-2025. This is a document outlining how the Council uses and manages all the land and buildings in order to support the strategic priorities. The main objectives include generation of income, asset management and development of long term housing procurement. This plan covers the Council assets, not CIFCO's.
Treasury Management	The half yearly Treasury Management report was discussed at Full Council in January. There was full compliance with the CIPFA code of practice. The COVID pandemic has had effects on the global markets. MSDC's overall debt reduced by £6.5M due to some repayments being made on PWVB loans and short-term loans. CIFCO has recently invested £5.7M in a Basingstoke business centre.
Anti-Semitism Declaration	Mid Suffolk Council has agreed to adopt the definition of antisemitism as set out by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance, and pledged to combat anti-Jewish racism, in line with the Government ahead of Holocaust Memorial Day on 27 th January.
COVID vaccination programme	<p>A Suffolk wide webinar was held with officials from Health services for Councillors across the county to ask questions about the vaccination programme. Information is also available for members of the public. More information can be found at https://sneevaccine.org.uk/</p> <p>Council Officers are working with Woolpit Health Centre and David Wilson Homes to create space for a temporary carpark to enable Woolpit Health Centre to deliver vaccines more efficiently.</p>
School Road development in Elmswell	Outline planning permission for 86 new homes and land for a new pre-school in Elmswell has been approved. This development includes highways improvements at the School Road - Church Road junction, an off-road cycle cycle/pedestrian path along School Road as part of the link to Woolpit. The Oak Tree on School Road is to be preserved and a TPO is in progress.

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