

## District Councillor Report: Elmswell Parish Council

### September 2024

Survey of residents	Mid Suffolk Council are carrying out an informal survey to find out how our residents want us to invest to improve facilities in our communities. This is an informal survey so if you have any ideas, please get in touch with either of your district councillors or visit the website here <a href="https://baberghandmidsuffolk.govocal.com/en-GB/projects/tell-us-mid-suffolk">https://baberghandmidsuffolk.govocal.com/en-GB/projects/tell-us-mid-suffolk</a>
Annual Canvass of electors	The Annual canvass of electors is currently underway. All properties in the district are being contacted to confirm who is registered to vote.
Future waste collection service	Mid Suffolk Cabinet will be discussing the new waste collection service next week. The proposals include weekly food waste collections from 2026 as well as accepting more recyclable waste with the addition of a second recycling bin for every household. This will mean that the general waste black bin will not fill up as quickly, and any changes to the collection cycle will be explained to residents as part of a Suffolk-wide communication ahead of the 2026 roll-out.
Innovation Awards	Businesses across the district are set to be recognised for fresh thinking and new ideas in the Babergh and Mid Suffolk Innovation awards this autumn. Nominations closed on 31 <sup>st</sup> August for the nine different awards available. The winners will be announced at a ceremony on Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> November.
Development of Chilton Fields sports facilities	Work has now begun on the development of the sports facilities at Chilton Fields in Stowmarket. The new trim-trail is currently being installed. The rest of phase 1 of development will continue over the coming weeks as part of a larger project aimed at addressing the Health Inequalities in Stowmarket.
Needham Market old HQ building	The old HQ building in Needham Market is to be sold for development, in order to deliver the regeneration plans and funds for re-investment back into social housing. MSDC has already developed housing on the old Middle School site and part of the old office site behind the older building facing the high street.
EV scheme for MSDC residents	A trial of electric community vehicles is set to launch next summer in Suffolk. Plug In Suffolk Car Clubs will be placing sixteen electric vehicles across eight locations in Suffolk, which local residents can book by the minute, hour or day. Two of these locations are in Mid Suffolk – Needham Market and Stowmarket. Anyone interested in the project can get more information at the <a href="#">the Plug in Suffolk mailing list</a> .
Proposed Care Home development School Road, Elmswell	The planning application for a care home and sheltered housing units on School Road was determined by planning committee on 28 <sup>th</sup> August. The scheme was recommended for refusal on grounds relating to heritage harm, landscape harm and it was against policy in both the new Joint Local Plan and Elmswell Neighbourhood Plan. The committee agreed with the officer recommendation and the application has been refused.
Thurston By-election	Cllr Austin Davies has resigned from the Council and a by-election will be held in Thurston Ward on 24 <sup>th</sup> September.
Councillor drop-in sessions	Jen and Sarah hold monthly drop-in sessions, alternating between Teacups Cafe in Woolpit and Wesley Café in Elmswell. The next two sessions are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September 10–12 Teacups Cafe</li> <li>Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 10-12 Wesley Café</li> </ul>

Field Code Changed

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