

District Councillor Report: Elmswell Parish Council

January 2022

Free bus/taxi travel for vaccinations	There is a Suffolk wide scheme for people who need to travel to get a COVID vaccination to get free transport either by bus or taxi. Details can be found here https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/covid-19-vaccinations-in-suffolk/
Solar car port	Works to install 70 solar carports at Mid Suffolk Leisure Centre in Stowmarket have now begun. The scheme form part of a £2.8m investment in solar at the councils leisure centres; with £1.4m in funding for the solar carports pilot, and a further £1.4m in funding to install solar panels and other energy saving measures on the leisure centre buildings.
Waste collections	Due to the numerous bank holidays over the Christmas and New Year period, waste and recycling bin collection days will not resume to their normal days until 24 th January. Brown bin collection will return to normal from 10 th January. If you have a real Christmas tree, it can be left for collection by your brown bin during January. If you are not a brown bin subscriber there is a Christmas tree collection point at the Blackbourne Centre in Elmswell on 19 th January. More details can be found at https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/waste-services/collection-days/christmas-collections/#CollectionPoints
Innovate Local	A pilot scheme to support small businesses in Babergh and Mid Suffolk has been hailed a success as it reaches its six-month milestone. Since its launch in July 2021, the Innovate Local initiative has supported 11 small businesses by providing a free pitch at either Stowmarket or Hadleigh markets for up to four weeks. The Innovate Local scheme is open to businesses that have been operating for less than a year and do not currently have a place on a market. As part of this project, MSDC will also be opening an innovation hub in Eye later this year.
Hopkins Homes development in Woolpit	The reserved matters planning application for 300 homes between Bury Road and the Cricket ground will be determined at Development Control Committee A on 12 th January. Details of the papers for this meeting can be found on the website here https://baberghmidsuffolk.moderngov.co.uk/ielistDocuments.aspx?Cid=178&Mid=3310&Ver=4
Copdock A14/A12 Interchange	Babergh and Mid Suffolk have sent a joint response to National Highways' consultation on improvements to the Copdock Interchange. The Councils are supporting the idea of a new link road for traffic going north-south on A12 bypass the roundabout, despite the fact that this will cause much environmental damage and will be less of an improvement for traffic heading from A12 toward Bury on A14.
New Council homes in Needham Market	Part of the housing development on the former MSDC Council Office site in Needham Market has been completed. 8 new affordable homes were ready for families to move in at the beginning of December. This development of housing is being built by MSDC in partnership with Norse Group.

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