

District Councillor Report: Woolpit Parish Council

October 2023

BMSDC Joint Local Plan	The Planning Inspectorate have finished the inspection of the Joint Local Plan part 1 and reported that it is sound, so it now needs to be formally adopted by Full Council. Planning policy officers are now able to focus on Part 2 of the plan which will include the housing allocations. All the documentation is available on the website http://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/jointlocalplan
Inspiring Climate Action	MSDC are staging a Community Climate Action Roadshow, which will give residents the chance to speak to local groups and organisations regarding climate action. The roadshow will visit Eye on Sat 7 th October, Bramford on Sat 21 st October and as part of the Stowmarket Town Council's Go Green Go Wild event on Tues 24 th October, during half term.
Help for older residents	MSDC is supporting Silver Sunday Campaigns to help tackle loneliness for older residents. Events are being held in Eye, Stowmarket and Needham Market over the next few weeks to bring young people into care homes for sing-alongs, games and fun.
Wellbeing for younger residents	MSDC are supporting an initiative with schools across the district to improve the well-being of young people. Thurston Community College, Stowmarket High School and Stowupland High School now have Youth Link workers to help pupils access community activities. This work will also spread to the feeder primary schools.
CIFCO	At full Council meeting last month, the CIFCO business plan was agreed. Given the change in administration this included a thorough review of operations prior to the next business case being brought to Council to inform MSDC's long term strategies.
Corporate Plan Refresh	The State of the District report was considered at last month's Full Council meeting, which set out an overview of Mid Suffolk. This is part of the evidence base underpinning the new Corporate Plan. Mid Suffolk Cabinet will be endorsing the engagement strategy for the development of the new Corporate Plan. It is hoped to engage with as wide a section of the district as possible, including some groups which seldom get involved, as well as businesses and Town and Parish Councils. The public engagement exercise is now open and we hope to get as many people as possible to comment online here https://baberghandmidsuffolk.citizenlab.co/ .
Electric Bus project	MSDC will be discussing the Electric Bus project at Cabinet this month. They hope to bring forward the ringfenced £820k and agree to work towards a 'grant' scheme to enhance existing rural transport provision with set routes.
Woolpit Car Park	MSDC officers are trying to work with the Health Centre regarding the management of the car park. The gate should be kept closed most of the time as part of the planning conditions, but it is hoped that it can be open for events such as the forthcoming vaccination clinics. Patients should be directed to access the car park via the Old Stowmarket Road entrance rather than Heath Road.
Councillor drop-in sessions	Jen and Sarah have arranged a series of monthly drop-in sessions alternating between Woolpit Teacups and Wesley Café in Elmswell. The next couple of sessions are: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tuesday 17th October 10-12, Teacups Café• Tuesday 14th November 10-12 Wesley Café

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