

District Councillor Report: Elmswell Parish Council

February 2025

Extraordinary Council meeting	The extraordinary Council meeting scheduled for Monday 10 th February was cancelled because there was insufficient information for us to debate the Devolution and local government reform situation in Suffolk. It is hoped to be able to re-schedule this debate. The Government has now agreed that County Council elections will not take place this year.
Local Plan review	With the new NPPF published alongside new increased housing targets, MSDC and Babergh have no real option other than to review the Joint Local plan part 1 which was adopted in November 2023. The existing plan may become superseded by new national policies if they are not updated. The councils will now build on the work already done on part 2 of the plan alongside reviewing part 1. The new timetable for the new plan will be brought to both councils in February.
Eurogarage service area A1088/A14 junction	A Breach of Condition notice and an Enforcement notice were served on EG On the Move Elmswell services. The business is continuing to operate despite this. Officers are taking a close interest in the steps the operator is taking to address the planning and highway safety issues. We are still awaiting an update on the current situation.
February Half term activities	Children across the districts have a great range of activities to enjoy this February half term thanks to a programme of events put together by Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils. Activities on the schedule include arts and crafts, multi-sport holiday clubs, outdoor adventure days, dance camps and much more. The whole family can also get involved with swimming sessions taking place in both Hadleigh and Stowmarket. Information about the activities is published on the website. https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/w/school-holiday-activities
Locality Budgets 2024/25	We have received a number of applications for the remaining funds within our locality budget. We hope to decide how much to grant to each organisation in order to fully use up our funds in the next week or so. Any further applications will now be directed to wait until the next round of funding begins – hopefully in late May, early June.
Councillor drop-in sessions	Jen and Sarah hold regular drop-in sessions, at either Teacups Café, Woolpit or Wesley Café, Elmswell. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thursday 20th March 10:00 – 12:00 at Teacups Café• Tuesday 1st April 10:00 – 12:00 at Wesley Café.

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