

# District Councillor Report:

August 2026

**Badley, Baylham, Creeting St Mary, Creeting St Peter, Darmsden, Needham Market Town**

|                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Stradbroke Leisure Centre Pool Closure for Maintenance</b>                                                                            | Essential maintenance on the roof and inside the pool hall. Closed for two weeks.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Approved upper funding limits totalling £350,000 for Stowmarket Town centre Gateway Fund – From the Community Infrastructure Levy</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £100,000 for MSVOF-led redevelopment of Lockington Road</li> <li>• £100,000 for Stowmarket Arts CIC conversion of 6 Old Fox Yard</li> <li>• £70,000 for a new coffee roastery and community activities</li> <li>• £80,000 for a new milkshake, ice cream and dessert business</li> </ul>                                                         |
| <b>Green Flag award for Needham Lakes</b>                                                                                                | Needham Lake, owned by Mid Suffolk District Council, has been officially recognised as one of the country's best green spaces for a second-year running, after winning another prestigious Green Flag Award. Now in its 30th anniversary year, the award is the international quality mark for parks and green spaces.                                                                    |
| <b>Greens Delivering Infrastructure – From the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)</b>                                                   | Additional funding directed to supporting local communities. John Peel centre platform lift and associated work projects, old fire station community space project, st Nicholas church accessible composting toilet and pathway, creating road "big park" play area upgrade project.                                                                                                      |
| <b>Council named as national finalist for nature recovery work</b>                                                                       | <p>Mid Suffolk District Council has been shortlisted in Nature 2030's Political Purpose Awards, in the Planning for Nature Recovery category.</p> <p>A £1.8m Nature Recovery Budget and investing in 30 hectares of land in Thorndon, Palgrave and Stowmarket, specifically for nature recovery, with extensive public engagement helping to shape local management agreements.</p>       |
| <b>Free community days out</b>                                                                                                           | <p>Families across Babergh and Mid Suffolk can enjoy two free community fun days this summer, with a packed programme of activities on offer for all ages.</p> <p>Delivered by Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils, the events will take place between 10am and 2pm at Belle Vue Park in Sudbury on Wednesday 12 August, and at Stowupland Village Hall on Wednesday 19 August.</p> |
| <b>Mid Suffolk Police initiatives</b>                                                                                                    | Teamed up with local officer for ASB awareness, on Ipswich Street and Brett Drive, completing various tasks and patrols to counter anti-social behaviour                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Home Plans approved</b>                                                                                                               | Mid Suffolk District Council approved the reserved matters for the former Bacton Middle School site, in Wyverstone Road Bacton. A joint venture between Suffolk County Council and Lovell Partnerships. It follows outline permission in 2020 for 50 homes, 10 of which affordable and a 3G football pitch alongside reserving land for primary and pre-school buildings.                 |
| <b>Bin Collection</b>                                                                                                                    | The service is now operating as intended, with all scheduled rounds completed. The food waste service collected 153 tonnes this week. Contact volumes on the dedicated Better Recycling telephone line have reduced                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Equans investing in Babergh and Mid Suffolk</b>                                                                                       | Babergh and Mid Suffolk have secured £3 million in funding, working with energy and regeneration contractor Equans, to improve efficiency in 168 more council homes, with completion expected by March 2027.                                                                                                                                                                              |

Terry Lawrence and Dr Ross Piper  
Mid Suffolk District Councillors

[Terry.Lawrence@midsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Terry.Lawrence@midsuffolk.gov.uk); [Ross.Piper@midsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Ross.Piper@midsuffolk.gov.uk)

Telephone: 07928 512599; 07928512581