District Councillor Report October 2024

* On the 9th of October I attended an on-line update re water and sewage hosted by Mark Russell. Essex and Suffolk Water, as well as Anglian Water were also represented.

A lot of info on rules, regulations and flood mitigation were highlighted.

It was, amongst other things, confirmed that a moratorium on further commercial water supply in the Hartismere area until 2032. It is to be noted that water companies are not legally obliged to supply water for commercial users.

On the 18th of October Essex and Suffolk Water will publish their ‘Water Plan’.

I will receive all the slides and I can pass these on to you as required.

* About the Recycling of waste the alt C had already been approved by Cabinet. This was passed with ease by Council. This will mean two weeks out of three recycled paper and card will be collected, green bin, and 2 weeks out of three metal and glass will be collected from the blue bin. Refuse will be done every third week. Food waste to be done every week from a small container. During the debate there were worries about the three weekly refuse collection, nappies for babies and also for adults were mentioned. One member suggested going back to reusable nappies.

There will be investment in EVs for the collections.

Plastic film won’t be recyclable until possibly April 2027.

Kerb glass collection is mandated by the government, this was pointed out as one member expressed concerns about loss of income for village halls.

I voted against this, not because I am against recycling but because I do not believe in refuse collection every three weeks only.

* Earlier this year there were plans on part of the government at the time to introduce a ‘Devolution scheme’ for Suffolk, I mentioned about this in an earlier Report. The present government has scrapped that. District Council has simply expressed hopes for a new deal to be created.
* Soon a year will have passed since ‘storm Babet’. Any Communities interested in upgrading or creating Community Emergency Plans are welcome to contact: EmergencyPlanning@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk
* Councillor Winch put forward a motion calling for the MSDC to ask of government to improve funding for Council Housing given the present crisis. A cash injection is needed, red tape needs to be axed re existing funding and a new model for revenue accounting needs to be established. This motion was passed, I voted in favour of this.
* Babergh and Mid Suffolk are jointly spending around £ 836 000 of CIL money. The Food Museum in Stowmarket will receive £100 000.For upgrade of toilets etc the same venue will also receive £ 100 000. Needham Baylham Village Hall will receive £100 000. There are a range of other projects due to be given money too.
* There are local issues that I am trying to get sorted. One problem is moving along towards a solution but another one seems stuck at the moment. I will keep chewing on.

Yours Sincerely

Anders Linder