



Wickham Skeith Parish Council

MINUTES of ANNUAL PARISH MEETING held MONDAY
13 MAY 2024 in the Village Hall

Present: Cllrs M Appleby (Chair), T Rowe, J Keeble, A Noller, T Thorogood and, Clerk L Rogers, SCC Cllr Warboys, MSDC Cllr Stringer and 15 members of the public.

Apologies: Received from R Palmer

1. Chair's Welcome: The Chair opened the meeting, welcoming all those in attendance.
2. Minutes of Meeting held 15 May 2023: The Minutes were approved. It was agreed the Chair would sign the minutes outside of the meeting.
3. Village Forum: How do you check for Crested Newts – an Ecology Report has to be carried out. On a small development you can do a drawing to show but a bigger development has to have an ecology report. CIL money – how is it being used in the village. Concerns and objections about the pylons were raised. Objections to the Planning application to build two houses at the Twynings were raised
4. Reports: 4.1. Chair's Report: During this year the Parish Council did not have a permanent chair but rotated the responsibility at each meeting. As Chair of the last meeting, it falls to me to give the Annual Report. It has been a busy year. Flooding and road conditions Residents will not need to be reminded of the flood events that started with high October rainfall and continued well into this year. Flooding (both fluvial and pluvial) occurred in several places in the village including flooding along The Street from the river and from surface water run-off, and at the bottom of Daisy Green Lane. Blocked drains contributed and are still unsolved. Damage to road verges and road surfaces is marked and several properties were internally flooded. The Parish Council continues to make representations to Highways and put forward a number of community self-help ideas. The Parish Council would like to thank all who helped during the floods, particularly to those in four-wheel drive vehicles who helped ferry people from schools or stranded vehicles, and to those who gave tea and toilet facilities to stranded motorists. Energy Infrastructure The Norwich to Tilbury Pylon plans generated much debate with almost all local government representatives against the proposal and yet National Grid continue to develop the scheme. The most recent public consultation started in April and councillors attended the information meeting in Gislingham. There are small tweaks in the proposals, including moving the pylons slightly further west from the original route. Councillors were made aware of haul roads, construction sites and the impact of the pylon development

requiring a 40m wide clear zone with trees being felled to achieve this. The announcement of a large solar farm on land in the south of the parish has also caused concern. Councillors will be addressing these issues in the coming months. Housing development A number of small extensions or refurbishments to properties were agreed. The six new houses at Dodd's Meadow/Pightle were finished, several are now occupied. Further planning applications continue to come forward including a third bungalow at Bumbledown, which the District Council refused. This is the first time an application has been rejected on the basis of sufficient housing supply available (over 10 years) and also for risk of surface water flooding. The Bumbledown bungalow has gone to appeal to the Planning Inspectorate. The District Council's decision to refuse planning at the site known as The Orchard was overturned at appeal. As the year ended two applications were submitted for houses adjacent to Twynings and will be considered at the next Parish Council. The parish has now had an increase of 10% in housing stock, following the developments planned and built this year. Developers have to contribute a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) to the District and Parish Councils as recompense for the impact of development. As a parish without a village plan, we are allocated 15% of funds. We have received just under £30,000 to be spent on 'infrastructure' over the next five years.

CIL Funds A working group was set up, with representatives of the Village Hall Committee and other residents, to discuss and determine expenditure on village priorities following the survey. Although putting solar panels on the village hall roof had been a priority, the condition of the roof was against this. PC has therefore, with the Village Hall Committee, been developing plans and grant options for a full repair to the roof. The purchase and installation of an improved speed camera (SID) in The Street was granted and is working well, recording over 200 vehicle movements a day and excess speeds. The camera appears to be achieving a reduction in overall speeding. Thank you to Nigel Merriam for installing and monitoring the SID. The Council continues to develop proposals for further expenditure of CIL funds. Grimmer Management Following invitations in the newsletter, residents expressed an interest in discussing the management of the Grimmer with respect to fishing. Mark Leggett volunteered to meet Councillors on site to discuss this. Key issues involve balancing the interests of residents with fishermen from outside the village, requirement for no camping overnight, requirement for no fishing from the roadside etc. Volunteer work parties Volunteers turned out to two work parties removing scrub and overgrown vegetation around the Grimmer and on two roadside litter picks in the spring. Thanks to all who volunteer their time and to Councillor Stringer for the loan of litter picking equipment. Other The Parish Council surveyed twelve houses, and the village hall, with a thermal imaging camera loaned by the District Council to improve home insulation awareness. Thanks to Councillor Noller for undertaking the surveys. The toad patrol started on 14 February continuing into March. Around 200 toads were helped across the road with very few casualties. Thanks to new recruits who joined the patrol. Councillors agreed to join the Greenest County Network. Councillor Keable was appointed defibrillator guardian and has included information on this in the village newsletter. Thanks to Councillor Keable for taking on this role. Sadly, the defibrillator had to be used on Easter Sunday. Councillor Noller was co-opted to Council in September 2023. Thanks to all councillors for their work this year and especially to our Clerk, Lucinda Rogers, for keeping us on track.

4.2 County Councillor Stringer Report: report will be made available on the council website

4.3 District Councillor Warboys Report: report will be made available on the council website

4.2 Village Groups: a copy of all the received reports will be made available on the council website along with these minutes

Bacton Benefice – At the APCM on April 30th 2023 there were 31 people on the Electoral Roll, of whom 27 are resident within the parish and 4 live outside the parish. The average weekly attendance was 10 when all special services were discounted. The Harvest collection at the end of September resulted in a very substantial amount of tinned & dried food being sent to the Stowmarket Food Bank for which they were very grateful. They thought it may have been our largest Harvest donation ever.

The Remembrance service in church resulted in a collection of £179 for the Royal British Legion.

57 came to the candlelit carol service held at 4pm on 23rd December and 28 to the Christmas Eve service held once again at 9pm to simplify staffing. The Christmas collections of £375.40 went to the Red Cross.

In 2023, there were 0 baptisms or weddings in church but there were 3 funerals and a burial of ashes.

St Andrew's hosted 3 benefice services during 2023. The members of the PCC met four times during 2023 plus the annual meeting which was held as a Benefice, sharing all the reports common to all PCCs and breaking into separate groups for specific reports and elections. There were also 4 meetings of the Benefice Council which consists of all Benefice churchwardens and members of the Ministry team who meet to discuss service rotas and affairs affecting everyone. As both the PCC group of fundraisers and the Friends of St Andrew's committee were rather depleted in numbers it was decided to combine forces to plan events and to decide whether the money raised from each event would be paid to the PCC account to help with regular costs or paid to FOSA towards the next big repair outlay. In 2023 the lead on the tower roof had to be patched twice to reduce water ingress so we know that a full re-leading must take place as soon as possible. Our fund raisers worked as hard as ever with at least one event in most months. All events were enthusiastically supported and provided fun and happy social occasions as well as generous monetary support: Pete's Quiz in April, the Grand National Sweepstake, a concert by Robert & Rachel Cohen in May, Open Gardens in July, Gislingham Silver Band in August, a Pudding Evening in September, the Christmas Pudding Stir-up in November. Margaret's regular Book Sale Coffee mornings from Spring through to Autumn continue to be well supported and Pennies boxes are still in circulation. Mike Hubbard of Mellis continues to mow the churchyard regularly from March/April through to November. Costs have risen but he makes sure the area is tidy and also mows the conservation area in August. Thanks once again go to all the people who contribute in so many ways to the life and upkeep of the Church community and building, especially the fund raisers, cleaners and flower arrangers and particularly to Sue Merriam, Louise Reinders & Jos Bryant who help Margaret & Liz with the unlocking and locking of the church each day. Liz Davidson and Margaret Jones-Evans, our churchwardens, deserve thanks for all that they do but St Andrew's is a church whose welcoming atmosphere comes from all its members.

History & Film Group – Firstly, as well as thanking the committee for their support, I'd like to welcome Kirsty Duce & Trevor Grant who have recently joined the committee & significantly reduced its average age. Also, particular thanks are due to our treasurer Ann Syrett & to Rosie Bassett for checking the accounts. Looking at the finances, we made a significant profit this year of £265 following a small loss of just under £100 last year. There are special circumstances, however. Of our 8 scheduled meetings, one had to be cancelled at short notice & 3 were home-grown productions with no speaker's fee.

To look back over the year to February, we had talks on the Black Death, Feasting & Fund-raising in Medieval Suffolk, Admiral Wemyss - the man who created Armistice Day, the real story behind the "Sound of Music" & the Field-names of Wickham Skeith. We also had an evening of Alistair Govan's videos which are always popular & also a showing of the evocative film, "Akenfield". Our summer visit

last year was to Norwich Castle, to see the exhibition on the Last Voyage of the Gloucester, the warship lost off Great Yarmouth in 1682. Some of us then had a guided tour of the Cathedral. Looking ahead, we are now heavily involved in the planning for our 20th anniversary exhibition, "A Village and its People", on Sat 8 June. Before that, our next meeting will be the re-arranged talk by Geoffrey Kay on the Festival of Britain in 1951. Following a suggestion at our last AGM, starting in on 22nd May, we will meet on the 4th Wednesday to avoid clashing with several other local groups. We will review this next year. We will think about a summer visit after the exhibition; any ideas would be gratefully received. Pete Davidson

Tree Warden – Work to trees within the Conservation Area was undertaken following granting of planning permission, including three ash trees along The Entry and removal of a plum tree at Twynings. Discussions were held with the District arboriculturist concerning the condition of, and possible works to, trees on the Green. A village working party commenced work on the large willow at the shop end of the pond and further work is planned for the autumn. Requests to BT, electricity board and Highways concerning the dead trees leaning on phone lines along The Broadway remain unresolved. As trees have begun to return to leaf this spring, it is noticeable how many ash trees are weakening due to chalara. More elm trees are continuing to succumb to elm disease and there is a general thinning out of tree cover within the parish. Countering that landowners/residents have planted hedges and trees over the winter.

Care Group – The Care Group was originally set up to provide lifts to hospital etc. for those who had no transport. Since Covid, there have been hardly any requests and the Group has scaled down. However, there are still a small number of volunteers in the village who are prepared to offer transport if needed. For any more information ring Sue on 766222

Thanks were given to all those who had contributed reports.

Meeting closed at 8.00 pm

Signed: Chairman Date:

County Councillor Stringer Report

Suffolk NSIPs Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) are major infrastructure projects of national importance, and the majority of Suffolk's NSIPs are associated with the generation or transmission of electricity. The decision to allow an NSIP to proceed is made by the relevant Secretary of State, not councils, although the county council is a statutory consultee for many projects. There are a high number of projects in Suffolk currently, with more in the pipeline:

- Drax – a gas power plant on the former Eye Airfield
- East Anglia Three offshore windfarm is under construction
- Two new offshore windfarms, East Anglia One North and East Anglia Two, were approved by the Secretary of State in March 2022
- EDF began construction of Sizewell C nuclear power station in January 2024
- National Grid are proposing grid reinforcement works from Bramford to Twinstead, with a decision expected later this year
- National Grid's Norwich to Tilbury stretch of the 'Great Grid Upgrade' programme, a controversial pylon route through the middle of the county
- Sealink proposals for an undersea cabling route between Suffolk and Kent is due to see significant onshore infrastructure at Friston, near Aldeburgh

- LionLink (previously known as Eurolink) proposes undersea cabling to link the UK with the Netherlands, with landfall proposed either above or below the Blyth estuary
- Sunnica Solar Farm, a 2,500 acre proposed solar development for Cambridgeshire and West Suffolk, has still not been approved by the government, with a decision due in April
- A new 750 acre solar farm, White Elm, has been proposed for Mendlesham in Mid Suffolk, with consultation due to begin in the autumn 2024

Flooding in Suffolk From end of October 2023, Suffolk suffered a winter of repeated flooding, most notably Storm Babet, when Debenham, Framlingham and Needham were particularly badly affected. Suffolk's total rainfall during October 2023 was 117.9mm (4.5in) which the Met Office report as being 90% more than the average expected rainfall for the month. The drainage systems in the county were unable to cope with the volume of water. Suffolk County Council have committed an extra £1m for flood investigations to try and prevent future incidents; where usually there are only three or four such investigations each year, for 2023 the number is likely to be near 100 investigations. The government offered funding to household affected by flooding, with many also able to access further money for preventative works.

RAAC/Condition of School Buildings In September the council held a scrutiny session on the condition of school buildings, which was very timely as the news has just begun reporting on the number of schools with RAAC, some of which had to delay the start of term or close buildings due to safety concerns. RAAC, which stands for Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete, is a lightweight building material, cheaper than concrete, which was used extensively in buildings between 1950 and 1990 but has a lifespan of 30 years. Nine schools in Suffolk reported they had RAAC onsite, out of around 230 nationally. Councillors were able to question council officers from the council's Schools Infrastructure team about RAAC, the schools in Suffolk affected and the support they were being offered. During the year in depth surveys were carried out at Stowupland High School, The result is that this school may now have to be completely rebuilt.

New Suffolk Fire and Rescue Control Centre The Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) have recommended that the council leave the current control centre partnership with Peterborough and Cambridgeshire councils and open a new control centre in Suffolk by the end of 2024. This would create significant extra cost, but it was agreed that it was necessary for the safety of Suffolk residents as the Fire Service had significant concerns about the running of the joint venture, particularly a new IT system which had been significantly delayed. A new temporary site for the control centre was needed from December 2023, and work will now begin to find a more permanent site in the centre of the county close to major roads.

New Highways Contract From 1 October 2023, Suffolk County Council entered into a new Highways contract with Milestone, following the end of the previous contract with Kier. The new contract promises better communication with councillors and Suffolk residents, and contains incentives for the new contractor to work efficiently – for example, undertaking other works needed in the same geographical area when they are called out. The performance of the contract will be scrutinised after 12 months to assess Milestone's performance and is for an initial period of 10 years, with the option to increase it a further 10 years. At the same time, a new contract for street lighting was entered into with McCann. This contract is due to last for seven years.

Budget Meeting: GLI Amendments Declined In February 2024, the Council's budget for 2024/25 was voted in. The Conservative budget proposed an increase in council tax of the maximum 4.99%, which breaks down into a 2% rise for the Social Care Precept and a 2.99% increase in general tax. Council services have faced another year of spiralling demand and additional cost pressures, and the council's administration have had to draw £16m from council reserves to balance their budget. The proposed budget included a 100% cut to arts and museums funding, with a temporary fund set up for 2024-25 using the remaining Covid funding from the government to allow some time for these organizations to adapt and find other sources of income. It also proposed that all local archives and records be centralised to The Hold in Ipswich, a decision which has been vigorously opposed in both Lowestoft and Bury St Edmunds, where

communities want to keep their record office buildings in the area. My group acknowledged the difficulty of the council's financial position and proposed a minor amendment – that instead of using all of the leftover Covid funding for arts and museums, half should be allocated to supporting young people not in education, employment or training (NEET), a service the Conservatives were planning to cut. **Funding for the Arts** The element of the budget which proved most controversial (and even reached the nation press) was the Conservatives' decision to cut 100% of arts funding from April 2025. As mentioned above, their budget proposed to use the last of their Covid funding from the government to provide arts and museums funding for the 2024-25 financial year. We proposed that £250k of the 2024-25 funding for arts and museums be allocated from the council's core funding, as this is an important distinction for arts organizations when they are applying for other sources of income. This amendment was declined. The Conservatives backed down on the 100% reduction in funding from April 2025 onwards, and shortly before the budget meeting announced a £500k funding pot which arts and heritage organisations can bid for in the 2025-26 financial year. This could mean the funding for arts and museums is spread more thinly, but means more organizations are likely to benefit. As budget decisions for 2025-25 will not be made until the February 2025 council meeting, this decision is not yet fully ratified.

Ofsted/CQC Inspection of Suffolk SEND Provision Suffolk County Council and its NHS partners who provide SEND services (the 'Local Area Partnership') were inspected by Ofsted and CQC in November 2023, with the inspection report being published on 30 January 2024. The inspection found 'widespread and/or systematic failings' in the county's SEND provision and is the second poor inspection result since SEND inspections were introduced in 2016 (the previous inspection being in November 2016). The Local Area Partnership had to submit a priority action plan to Ofsted and CQC by 7 March 2024 detailing how they would address the systemic problems rapidly, including improving the quality and timeliness of EHCP plans (previously known as statements of special educational needs) and annual reviews, improving communication with families and reducing school exclusions for young people with special educational needs. As a result of the inspection, the two Cabinet Members for children's services and education at the council stood down, and new Cabinet Members have been appointed to these roles. A new full time and permanent Director for Children's Services (DCS) has also recently been appointed, who will start at the council in July.

Suffolk Devolution Deal After much talk of devolution in the last few years, it looks like this may now happen in Suffolk. Devolution is a process by which regions or cities in the UK can have greater control over decisions in their areas. The government agrees a deal with the area which gives them more freedom to make local decisions about how to spend government funding. This is due to happen in Suffolk from 2025 in areas such as transport and adult education. There will also be a £16m annual investment fund for economic growth, a £5.8m lump sum to regenerate brownfield sites across the county, and a £3m one off investment in retrofitting homes to make them more energy-efficient. The devolution deal also means the leader of Suffolk County Council would be directly elected by the people of Suffolk, so every four years residents will have two votes, one to elect their local county councillor and the leader of the county council. The first election for the directly elected leader will be in May 2025, which is the next county council election. There could be problems with having an elected leader if they are from a different political group to most of the other councillors; the leader can choose a Cabinet and control the council's agenda, but without the votes in the council chamber they might find it difficult to get things done. There is a consultation being held about the deal right now, and you can find out more about it and fill out the survey here: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/devolution>

Libraries Consultation On Tuesday 25 March, Cabinet reviewed the results of the recent consultation about the Suffolk library service, which is due to go out to procurement in the summer. Broadly, the members of the public who responded to the survey agreed with what libraries currently provided, including community and digital services, and the mobile library and home library services for people who were housebound. Recent pop-up libraries in village halls did not score highly in the consultation and it is unlikely these will form part of the service in future. It is also likely that mobile libraries will run

from smaller vehicles in future. The successful bidder for the new libraries contract is likely to be announced in November, with the new contract starting from June 2025. The contract will be for six years with an option to renew for a further six years. **Sizewell C Construction Begins** In January 2024, construction work officially began for Sizewell C nuclear power station on the coast near Leiston. EDF are building a two-reactor nuclear power station that will generate 3.2 gigawatts (GW) of electricity that could power the equivalent of six million homes. The development is highly controversial, not only for those opposed to nuclear power, but also to those in the local communities opposed to the upheaval and impact of the construction on the natural environment, the beauty of the coastline and the effect on tourism and transport routes during the construction period. The construction is projected to take between nine and 12 years, but in practice nuclear power stations often take far longer than planned to build – for example, Hinkley Point C nuclear power station, which began construction in 2017, is now predicted to be operational in 2036, 11 years after it was supposed to be finished. The government and EDF still need to raise an extra £20bn for the project from private investors which they claim will be in place by the end of 2024. **Motions to Council** My group passed one motion successfully during the year in May 2024, which was for the council to work with its partners to better signpost members of the public to benefits they may be entitled to. This motion was raised as a result of reports that over £15bn of means tested benefits are going unclaimed because people were not always aware of the support they could access to help them, even in times when costs of living are putting serious pressures on families all over the country. Other motions the group had been unable to bring forward or were voted down by the Conservative administration included solar power 'Roofs before Rural', to ask the council to commit to prioritise solar panels on buildings and brownfield sites over solar farms on good quality agricultural land, and to lobby the government to reduce barriers to community energy projects. Community energy projects enable local people to produce electricity (for example, by solar panels on schools) to reduce bills, with any extra electricity sold to the grid, making a profit which can be reinvested locally. In July my group proposed a motion to make it easier for communities to lower speed limits on rural roads where the safe speed for driving is clearly lower than the current National Speed Limit. The motion suggested that on these roads, a lower speed limit than 60mph would encourage many drivers to slow to a more appropriate, safer speed, thereby reducing accidents and making roads safer for all users. This motion was voted down by the Conservative administration. We also tabled a motion on flooding in December, which among other things, proposed to increase the frequency of clearing drains and gullies around the county; however, the Conservatives proposed an amendment removing this recommendation and passed an amended motion, which did not include any increases to the usual schedule of drainage works.

District Councillor Warboys Report

New administration

The result of the May 2023 elections was that the 24 elected Green Party councillors officially became the administration at Mid Suffolk. Councillor Andy Mellen, as Leader outlined our initial priorities to lead and work with other bodies to address the challenges faced by our communities: cost of living, affordable homes, local services, public transport and climate change. A cabinet of six councillors was formed. Andy Mellen - Performance & Resilience

Rachel Eburne- Finance & Resources Andrew Stringer- Heritage, planning & infrastructure
Tim Weller - Environment, culture & wellbeing Richard Winch - Housing & property Teresa Davis- Thriving towns & rural communities. Other roles were provided to members of Council across all political parties in line with our view of collaborative politics. A Plan for the next few years was agreed which placed environmental and social responsibilities at the heart of everything the Council does. In a break with previous administrations this went out to consultation. Budget For 2023/24 the General Fund

budget was for approximately £15.5 million with an expected £2.3 million surplus which will go into reserves. Funds have also had to be provided from the Housing Revenue Account for the backlog of repairs that has built up.

For 2024/25, net expenditure on services is budgeted at £18.5 million with a 2% increase in council tax. The HRA Account is independent of the Council's General fund and has to be self-financed. Council home rents increased by 7% and sheltered housing service charges also increased. This has been done to ensure the Council can afford the repairs and maintenance that are needed. All these increases are due to inflation, costs of energy and other cost increases. The Council has reserves of over £28 million as at the end of the financial year plus an expected dividend from the Gateway 14 business park. Plans for this are on a variety of work including new foot/cycle paths, land for biodiversity and green spaces, regeneration of Stowmarket town centre, improved sports provision in the district and enabling community-led housing. Approval was also given to increasing council tax on empty homes in 2024/25 and implementing increased council tax on second homes in 2025/26. Thriving towns and villages

A group of Councillors has been working on issues around sustainable transport. A new rural transport grants scheme with a pot of £600,000 was set up to help provide passenger transport options across the district. Approval was gained for the financing of a Green Skills and Innovation Centre on Gateway 14 (G14). This will in part act as a centre of excellence for local businesses and a training site for adults needing new skills. Also on G14, The Range is due to move into the largest building on site and a deal with a sustainable roof products supplier was agreed. In Stowmarket, the first part of the sports project was approved and work will commence this year for new pitches, an athletics track and other improvements at Chilton Fields and next to the high school. In conjunction with Suffolk County Council, Mid Suffolk provided much support to residents and businesses affected by the floods of Storm Babet and Storm Ciaran. The councils of Mid Suffolk and Babergh were jointly awarded Council of the Year for their collaboration with different partners, working to improve services and focus on communities. Environmental sustainability The Council launched the Cosy Homes scheme, a £2 million project to insulate homes for free. Separately a grant of nearly £1 million was received for retrofitting council homes. A new Pride in your Place grant was established to provide every parish with additional funds to improve the environment for their community. The Council continues to encourage local groups to improve areas for wildlife and a call for sites from landowners was made so that more trees can be planted across the district. The annual Tree for Life scheme was again a success and tree, hedging and wildflower packs for communities across the district. The Council published its Carbon Reduction Management Plan with a focus for this year on improving sheltered housing and further work on the leisure centres. Planning and Housing In November 2023, Part 1 of the Joint Local Plan (JLP) for Mid Suffolk and Babergh was approved and adopted. The JLP sets out a planning framework to guide development in the districts over the period to 2037. JLP Part 1 provides a set of strategic and local development management policies against which planning applications and appeals will be assessed. There are 10 strategic policies (such as on affordable housing, climate change and tourism) and 32 local policies (such as on biodiversity, historic environment and sustainable construction).

With regards to Part 2, the Inspector had acknowledged that 90% of Mid Suffolk's housing target is already allocated (either via existing permissions or sites allocated via Neighbourhood Plans) and that this is central to future policies. Work has been continuing on this with public consultation expected later in 2024. Separately, to support this, the Council is working on Supplementary Planning Documents. The first three, currently at draft stage, are on Housing, Biodiversity and Intensive Livestock and Poultry. The Council continued to oppose the Norwich to Tilbury pylon project raising significant concerns, particularly over the impact on the environment and the effect on local communities. Mid Suffolk's annual monitoring report showed that 1,257 new dwellings were built in the district in 2022/23, of which 299 were affordable. This met 144% of the Government target. There are 6,916 outstanding planning permissions (as at 01/04/23) which are either not started or under construction. Mid Suffolk

has 10.88 years of housing land supply, well above the Government target of five years. Over £1.5 million was provided to parish and town councils in the form of the Community Infrastructure Levy during the year. Supporting the community

We support local events and community groups where we can and particularly link local groups with external fundraising via the Mid Suffolk community team. Almost £550,000 was allocated by Mid Suffolk District Council Direct to communities across the district from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).

MSDC would like to thank the Parish Councils for all their work done throughout the year.