

District Cllr Report Thurston Ward

Beyton, Norton, Thurston, Tostock, Stowlangtoft

October 2022

MSDC Meeting (October).

The performance of the £49 Million retail property portfolio was reported. In 2021/22 a yield of 3.5% was made. Questions were raised as to the effect of the current economic conditions on its future performance. Within the overview committee it was resolved that Mid Suffolk Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommend to Mid Suffolk Cabinet that, as part of the development of the electric bus project, local consultations to elicit unmet transport needs should be carried out – one covering an urban area and one covering a rural area.

Joint Local Development scheme 2022-25 was discussed and adopted.

Questions were asked about what provisions were being made to continue the support to our Ukrainian guests.

Planning

Continuing to push implementation of the Heath Road development.

Supported the Thurston Parish Council position on the Linden Homes phase2 application with safeguards for the established woodland of Lady Green Plantation for our community.

DC/22/ 00398 Follow up meeting postponed so call in still has not happened.

EN/22/00335, EN/22/00492 Barrell's Road, our MSDC enforcement officer has confirmed that there have been breaches of the planning approval. The next steps are awaited. No word as yet on what changes are to be made following the planning peer review or our councils request for leave to appeal the outcome of the Judicial Review.

Ben Wragge 33 acres

Members of West Suffolk District Council strongly suggest that MSDC creates an out of area CIL project. Explore ways of progressing the funding of this project. Our electoral officer requires cabinet support before researching how to change our Parish/District boundary. Neighbouring residents feedback/meeting planned with their views to be given to the project team.

Gateway 14

Site creation is on track with 'The Range' distribution warehouse schedule to open before the end of 2023 which will provide many new career opportunities for our residents.

Environmental/biodiversity news

Suffolk Public Sector Leaders (SPSL) unanimously agreed funding today to create a new Fuel Poverty Retrofit Team, helping those most affected by the rising cost-of-living. It will be part of the Warm Homes Suffolk scheme, which was jointly established by Suffolk County Council, Babergh and Mid Suffolk Councils, West Suffolk Council, East Suffolk Council and Ipswich Borough Council in 2021. The scheme is a source of expert advice on reducing energy bills and in identifying benefits that residents may be entitled to. This winter, Warm Homes Suffolk extends its support further with the creation of a Fuel Poverty Retrofit Team: supporting residents in energy-inefficient homes, struggling most to afford rising energy bills. More than 62,000 properties in the county are thought to have the worst Energy Performance Certificates (EPC) of E, F or G. And an estimated 28% of homes - 95,000 households – are in fuel poverty, almost double the number in 2019. SPSL today pledged £366,000 to create the new

team to tackle the challenges, with a further £390,000 of funding underwritten. Measures could include the installation of insulation, fitting air source heat pumps and replacing single glazing.

Community Infrastructure Levy

Continued expansion of Thurston Community Collage is progressing.

Beyton Geese

Bird flu measures have once again been correctly implemented in Beyton which has resulted in their famous Geese being pended up again.

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