

**Draft until signed**

**Minutes of Battisford Parish Council Meeting  
Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2017 at 7.30pm, Battisford Village Hall, Straight Road, Battisford**

**Present:** C Knock (Chairman), B Rhodes (Vice Chairman), C Nicholas (Councillor), S Zethraeus (Councillor), C Skinner (Councillor), N Cleaver (Councillor), P Aspinall (Councillor)

**Attending:** S Meech (Clerk), D Whybrow (District Councillor), A Whybrow (County Councillor), J Budd (Public), 13 members of the public for Item 11 (Wonderleir)

**1. Apologises for absence**

None

**2. Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Skinner – Item 10 c) i) – Finance – Cheque payment – DOI book signed and dated by Cllr Skinner

**3. Public Forum**

13 members of the public are attended for Item 11 – Wonderleir

**11. (b/f) Wonderleir**

Cllr Knock explained that this has been an agenda item for some time in relation to noise disturbance from both exotic birds and dogs kept at Wonderleir and Cllr Whybrow has been very proactive with MSDC in relation to this issue. Neighbours of Wonderleir were invited to the meeting for them to give up to date feedback to Battisford Parish Council and Cllr Whybrow of their current situation in regard to the disturbance.

Cllr Whybrow explained how he has taken concerns raised and the loss of amenity of neighbouring properties of Wonderleir to officers at MSDC. Battisford Parish Council have been supportive with Cllr Whybrow as to the lack of activity from MSDC towards this issue and Cllr Whybrow has been their representative liaising with MSDC. The current planning situation at Wonderleir is not lawful and accordingly enforcement could proceed. Enforcement occurred in early 2016 with a period of adherence and time to make the situation lawful within a 12-month period this accounted for the perceived rarity of the bird species and difficulty for dispersing of the bird collection. The period of enforcement expired in March 2017.

Cllr Whybrow stated that this is now unacceptable and believes the period for disposal was generous and a way to move forward would be enforcement of non-compliance. Factors in MSDC decision making have been the welfare of the birds, the age of the resident, dispersal of the rare bird collection, human/animal rights and putting themselves into a position of legal challenge. Cllr Whybrow explains that he does not have executive powers, it is the officers at MSDC that have this. For over 8 years now this situation has not moved and needs enforcement which has still not happened. Battisford Parish Council acknowledged this struggle and Cllr Whybrow explains that is why the letter was sent out to neighbouring properties to see if Wonderleir is still an issue for them. The attendance at the meeting tonight and correspondence received by post and email confirm that this is still an issue and needs taking to MSDC.

Mr Lambotte & Ms Pridmore attended the meeting to advise that they are in the final stages of purchasing Wonderleir from Mr Hammond after starting to buy the property in November

2016, hoping to complete on the purchase by the end of September. They are wanting to run a small home mail order business and have a small equestrian area, they have approached MSDC for their comments on replacing the old buildings for B1 use.

Members of the public welcomed the news of a new purchaser for Wonderleir but are concerned if the sale was to fall through, questioning their human rights if Mr Hammond is not to move from Wonderleir and requested support from Battsiford Parish Council and Cllr Whybrow. A sound clip was played of the noise heard from a neighbouring house tonight and the residents advise that they think more birds are housed at Wonderleir again and other members of the public agree this to be the case. Noise can be heard from 3am becoming all consuming, creating a lack of sleep and affecting rural living with debate occurring over the age and exclusivity of animals coming into consideration with enforcement but not considered for members of the public. No enforcement has meant a loss of amenity for residents for over 8 years even 6 months after the enforcement deadline, nothing has been done by MSDC, their son was 8 when they moved in to their property and is now 16 so could his age be included in the age argument?

Cllr Cleaver advised the public that Battsiford Parish Council have the same view as residents over age being used as a deciding factor in enforcement and this was part of the catalyst for writing to residents to gain a clear view with true representation required to apply more pressure to MSDC. It was believed that residents felt very much in the dark over matters. The public would like to know what Battsiford Parish Council can do and Cllr Nicholas advises that recording equipment was used years ago, however, there was not a conclusion, a resident advises that the recording from their home was lost. Cllr Whybrow assured the residents that Battsiford Parish Council and himself have done plenty to push this issue.

Cllr Zethraeus queried with Cllr Whybrow as to how other councillors in the district felt about this ongoing contentious issue. Cllr Whybrow explained that he is vocal within the available forums he has attended and he will demand a further hearing now that he has been notified that it is thought more birds maybe present. The birds are not native, they are intrusive and their pitch carries so he will demand another site visit with a feedback deadline of 14 days and a proposal for action. Cllr Whybrow did not apologise for MSDC as he feels the public have not been served well and he will bring an update to the next meeting, however, he confirmed again that he does not have executive power. Cllr Zethraeus suggested media as an option again and Cllr Whybrow confirmed he would feed this back to MSDC also.

The councillors requested that a letter be sent to the CEO of MSDC to advise of their disappointment with the issues at Wonderleir and complain about the lack of action that has been taken and to request justification as to their decision to not act in this matter so far. Cllr Whybrow highlighted that the noise disturbance affects the pleasurable enjoyment of neighbouring properties. Once a letter has been sent to the CEO of MSDC Cllr Whybrow will research where we would need to go next if we are not happy with the outcome from MSDC such as the ombudsman for local government. Local residents confirmed that they are more than happy to support this letter.

The public also advised that it is not just the birds but dogs are an issue also with barking, howling and wailing, they are fed and then it starts again and they are housed in tin sheds.

**Action** – Clerk to write a letter to the CEO of MSDC

**4. Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

Signed as a true and accurate copy of the meeting

**5. Matters arising from minutes**

No matters arising

**6. County Councillors Report**

See Appendix 1

**7. District Councillors Report**

See Appendix 2

**8. Parish Council Chairman's Report**

Nothing to report that is not included in the agenda

**9. Planning**

**a. Applications received for consideration**

- i. DC/17/02778 – Bevants Farm, Burnt House Lane, Battsford IP14 2NE – Erection of two storey rear extension and single storey front porch canopy extension – Consultee comment deadline expired – No comments submitted
- ii. DC/17/03365 – Tye Cottage, Valley Road, Battsford IP14 2HW – Erection of extension to existing garage to form annexe – Consultee comment deadline expired – No comments submitted

**b. Decisions received from MSDC – None received**

**10. Finance**

**a. Accounts review to date** – As of the 14<sup>th</sup> August 2017 the Community Account balance was £15,444.10 and the Savings Account Balance was £2,358.62 – Cllr Aspinall signed and dated the statements.

**b. Payments received** – None

**c. Payments to hand**

- i. Skinner Building Services – Electrical installation defibs - £300.00 – All councillors agree payment. Cheque Number 100926 signed and dated by Cllr Knock and Cllr Rhodes.
- ii. SLCC – Annual subscription (50%) - £59.00 – All councillors agree payment. Cheque Number 100927 signed and dated by Cllr Knock and Cllr Rhodes.
- iii. Clerk (S Meech) – Overtime and Expenses - £108.38 - All councillors agree payment. Cheque Number 100928 signed and dated by Cllr Knock and Cllr Rhodes.
- iv. D Windle – Village Green Maintenance - £340.00 - All councillors agree payment. Cheque Number 100929 signed and dated by Cllr Knock and Cllr Rhodes.
- v. D Windle – Cemetery grass cutting - £391.00 - All councillors agree payment. Cheque Number 100929 signed and dated by Cllr Knock and Cllr Rhodes.
- vi. BVHMC – Hall Hire/Barclif/Broadband - £370.00 - All councillors agree payment. Cheque Number 100930 signed and dated by Cllr Knock and Cllr Rhodes.
- vii. R.J. Kerridge – Lock bracket and welding on gate - £48.00 - All councillors agree payment. Cheque Number 100931 signed and dated by Cllr Knock and Cllr Rhodes.
- viii. Glasdon U.K Limited – Litter Bin - £188.29 - All councillors agree payment. Cheque Number 100932 signed and dated by Cllr Knock and Cllr Rhodes.
- ix. S Meech – Playdale Safety Mesh Mat for play area - £87.12 - All councillors agree payment. Cheque Number 100933 signed and dated by Cllr Knock and Cllr Rhodes.

**15. (b/f) Babergh and Mid Suffolk Joint Local Plan**

Cllr Knock and S Meech have a copy of the local plan so it is agreed that it will be circulated among the councillors. Councillors are to draw up comments such as areas that it is felt could be used for sites for the next parish council meeting for submission to MSDC before the deadline for comments closes.

**Action** – Add this item to the October agenda

**12. Broadband**

Ben Skinner has advised that some orders are now possible and FTTP is in the final stages of completion. Cllr Nicholas spoke to BT and was advised that box 41 by Taylors Farm is not yet in operation.

**13. Data protection legislation – see email**

E-mail circulated by clerk to Battisford Parish Council and this is a subject that needs to be monitored.

**14. Cemetery**

Battisford Parish Council met at the cemetery this evening before the parish council meeting to familiarise themselves with the cemetery and discuss maintenance etc that is required. Clerk had previously met the gravedigger at the cemetery and he advised that some maintenance is required. All councillors agree that some of the hedges need to be trimmed and a tidy up is needed by D Windle.

Cllr Knock also wanted to thank Alan Burgoyne for all his assistance in redrawing the cemetery plans.

**Action** – Cllr Knock to contact D Windle to instruct winter maintenance at the cemetery and clerk to check D Windle's public liability insurance

**16. Defibrillator**

Cllr Aspinall advised prior to the meeting that the defibrillator at the Valley Road end of the Straight Road had been flashing although it now seemed ok. Cllr Skinner to arrange for an electrician to check the defibrillator

**17. Play area/Village Green/Play area group (subcommittee)**

Clerk circulates in the meeting all the information she has received from SALC regarding subcommittees and Battisford Parish Council advise that this is an item they would like to discuss with the play area group.

**Action** – Clerk to invite a representative of the play area group to the next parish council meeting.

**18. Big Lottery Fund for All – Completion report accepted**

Clerk advised Battisford Parish Council that the completion report she submitted to the Big Lottery Fund for All has been accepted and signed off with no further action required.

**19. Neighbourhood Watch**

This item is to be moved to the next agenda

**20. Bear necessities**

Cllr Cleaver advised that the bags of help scheme that she submitted an application to closed on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2017 and she will let Battsford Parish Council know the result as soon as received. Item for next agenda.

**21. Speeding**

Move to the next agenda

**22. Correspondence**

All circulated by email

**23. Any other business for inclusion on the next agenda**

No additional items than are included in this agenda to be moved

**24. Date and time of next meeting – Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2017 at 7.30pm**

Meeting closed at 9.35pm

## Appendix 1



**Anne Whybrow**

Suffolk County Councillor  
The Old Rectory  
Ringshall  
IP14 2HZ  
07525288635

## Battisford

The Parish Clerk approached Wright at County regarding speeding in the village and in particular an issue that Cllr Aspinall raised close to her home in Valley Road at the end of Hascot Hill. Philip is no longer in post but has spoken with the survey team and I have agreed to fund this from my budget. Apparently the survey was last done 10 years ago but Cllr Skinner advises less than that.

Following restructure of Suffolk Highways there are now three area offices dealing with local issues and our area will fall under Phoenix House in Ipswich. When reporting any problems the public and Parish Councils should use the Customer Service Centre: telephone number 0345 606 6171 as the point of contact for all enquiries. From yesterday (4<sup>th</sup> September 2017) the new team is in place, I am sure there will be teething problems but they have been working within this area before and have been working with previous officers with the aim to make the transition seamless. I visited the new team yesterday and discussed the long list of repairs needed across the Division. In particular the survey mentioned above the village signs in need of replacement. I have a Highways Locality Budget of £6,666 annually when I report to you (Unsuitable for HGV) signing cost £1,200 from this budget you will understand that the budget doesn't go very far across 13 Parishes! I now have a copy of a Matrix that shows how decisions are made as to mending potholes, I am told that when repairs are made in the future common sense should be used if one close by also needs repairing. Watch this space!

**Find out where and when the Tour of Britain will be passing through Suffolk**

Next Friday (8<sup>th</sup> September) some of the world's elite riders will be racing through Suffolk as part of the prestigious Tour of Britain.

To ensure safety for riders and spectators, road closures and a number of parking restrictions will be in place across the county as the tour heads along the 187km route from Newmarket to Aldeburgh on September 8.

In Newmarket, High Street will be closed between Dullingham Road and Bury Road and The Avenue will be closed from High Street to Queensberry Road. These closures will accommodate spectators, start area apparatus and convoy vehicles.

And in order to provide a suitable diversion for High Street, there will be parking restrictions along the following roads:

- All Saints Road – from Old Station Road to Granary Road
- Granary Road
- Green Road – from Granary Road to The Avenue

There will be suspensions of on street parking in the following locations along the race route, for safety reasons:

- High Street, Ixworth – between Bury Road and The Landridge
- Ixworth Road, Walsham le Willows – 100 metres prior to the Summer Road junction
- The Street, Walsham le Willows
- Finningham Road, Walsham le Willows – between The Street and Clay Street
- B1117 Magdalen Street, Eye – from the Eye poultry entrance to Castle Street
- Castle Street, Eye – from Magdalen Street to Lowgate Street
- New Street, Stradbroke – from Woodfields to Doctors Lane
- College Road, Framlingham – from Vyces Road to the Well Close Quare roundabout
- Bridge Street, Framlingham – from the Well Close Square roundabout to Market Hill
- Church Street, Framlingham – between Market Hill and Castle Street
- Castle Street, Framlingham – from Church Street to the B1119 Fore Street
- Fore Street, Framlingham – from Castle Street to Station Road
- Dallinghoo Road, Wickham Market – from Broad Road to B1438 High Street
- B1078 High Street, Wickham Market – along the Access Road from B1078 Wickham Bridge to Dallinghoo Road (Market Hill)
- Broad Street, Wickham Market – between Dallinghoo Road to the Little Lane junction
- The Street, Tuddenham St Martin – between Fynn Lane and High Street
- B1438 Melton Road, Woodbridge/Melton – between Lime Kiln Quay and A1152 Wilford Bridge Road
- Waterloo Avenue, Leiston – between St Margarets Crescent and Station Road

In Aldeburgh, High Street (between Park Road and Wentworth Road), Crabbe Street, Crag Path, King Street, Alde Lane, Market Cross Place, Victoria Road (between Market Cross Place and High Street) and all side roads between High Street and Crag Path, will be closed.

There will also be on-street parking suspensions along Wentworth Road, Thorpe Road (between Aldeburgh and Thorpeness) and Leiston Road (from the roundabout to Crag Fit Nurseries).

All of the above road closures and parking restrictions will apply between 11.30pm on Thursday 7 September and 12midnight on Friday 8 September, however, every effort will be made by the traffic management team to lift parking suspensions and closures as soon as

possible after the race has passed through. There is one additional closure in Aldeburgh, along Victoria Road, between the roundabout and High Street), between 1.30pm and 4pm on 8 September to accommodate the race as it comes through to the finish line.

All vehicles will need to have left the areas ahead of the suspensions being put in place. Those in all areas affected by the closures and parking suspensions have been informed of alternative parking. Advanced signage will also be in place along the route.

This link provided by the Tour of Britain gives the estimated times riders are expected to make their way along the route, providing the ideal planner for supporters to cheer on their favourites - <http://d2cx26qpfwuhvu.cloudfront.net/tour-britain/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/26111123/ToB-2017-S6-Newmarket-Aldeburgh-ETA-v2.pdf>

The link also acts a good indicator of when the rolling road block will be making its way across the county – around 10/15 minutes before the time indicated in the ‘100%’ column.

## **Suffolk students celebrate as GCSE results continue to rise**

Self-reported statistics from Suffolk schools released today show that more students in Suffolk have achieved expected levels of GCSE attainment in English and Maths this year.

This year, there has been a change to the way that English and Maths GCSEs are graded. Results are now graded from 9 to 1, (previously A to G) with 9 being the highest and 1 being the lowest. The expected standard for pupils to achieve is now a grade 4 and above (previously a C grade and above), with grade 5 considered a ‘strong pass’. These changes will be phased in to cover all subjects by 2020.

More than 7,000 students in Suffolk were entered for GCSE results. According to provisional results collated from around 80% of schools in Suffolk, 63% of students achieved a grade 4 and above in English and maths this year. The figures suggest more than 2% more students have achieved the expected standard for English and maths, compared with last year.

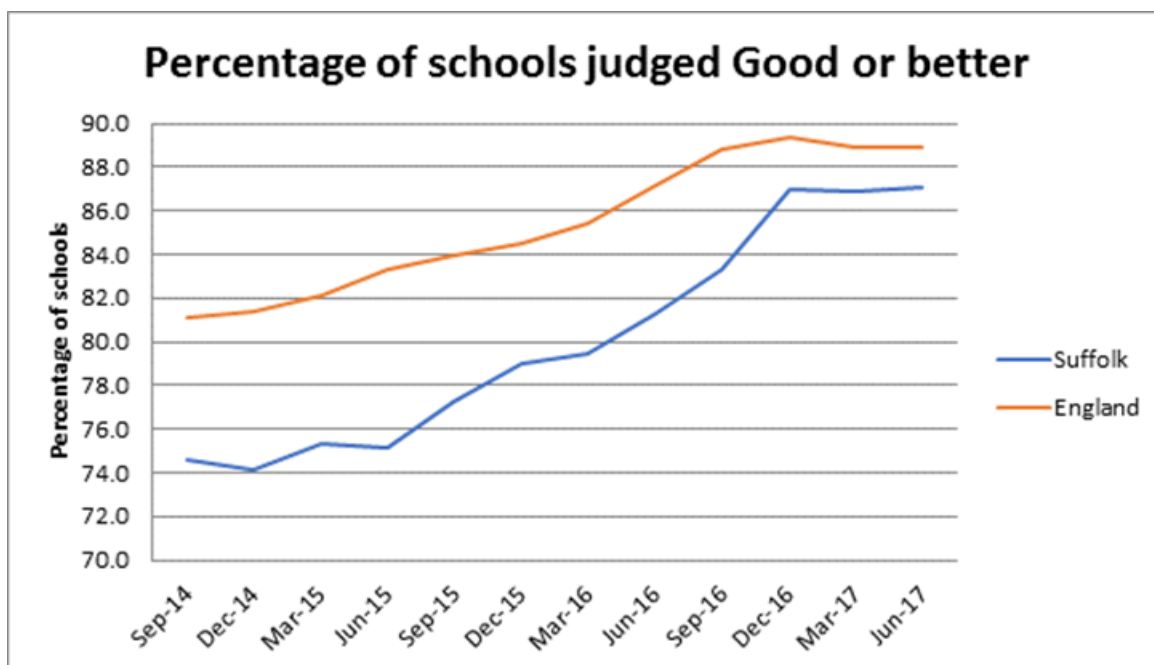
Some schools have made significant gains compared to last year:

- Ormiston Denes Academy: 20% increase to 53% of pupils achieving the threshold for English and maths.
- Holbrook Academy: 15% increase to 88% of pupils achieving the threshold for English and maths.
- Stowmarket High School: 15% increase to 60% of pupils achieving the threshold for English and maths.

The self-reported figures also show a significant increase in the number of disadvantaged pupils achieving the threshold measure in English and maths. Approximately 6% more students in Suffolk achieved this measure this year compared to last year.

## **Oftsed Performance**





## More students in Suffolk pass A level exams than across the country

Provisional A level figures show that Suffolk pupils have once again performed well with the number of A\*-E grades awarded above the national average.

Almost 3,000 pupils were entered for A Levels in Suffolk. Although yet to be verified, the figures show that 98.2% of A levels taken in the county have been awarded an A\*- E grade, compared with 97.9% nationally. 77% of A level grades achieved were within the A\*- C bracket, in line with national figures and a 1% increase on last year's results.

Early indications show that Suffolk's Academic average points per entry has risen to 33.37 this year, compared with 30.44 last year.

Pass rates remain high across the county, with St Benedict's Catholic School and Newmarket Academy both reporting a 100% pass rate (A\*-E grade achieved). Students at Sir John Leman High School made a significant 11% gain in the number of A\*-C grades awarded this year, increasing from 71% to 82%.

## Appendix 2

Councillor David Whybrow (Conservative)

Mid Suffolk District Council Member for Ringshall Ward



Report to Battisford Parish Council

Full Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2017

### Planning (since 16<sup>th</sup> May 2017 to date of report)

#### 1.1 Validated (awaiting Decision) -

1.1.1 Bevant's Farm Barn, Burnt House Lane, Battisford IP14 2NE Reference DC/17/02778 (Householder Planning Application)

Erection of two storey rear extension and single storey front porch canopy extension

Validated 01 Jun 17

Consultation Expiry 18 Jul 17

Target Determination 27 Jul 17

#### 1.2 Decisions –

1.2.1 Welham's Meadow, Church Road, Battisford IP14 2HF

Use of land for the siting of four holiday caravans with associated caretakers office and store room with WC facilities for member of the angling club.

Installation of new septic tank.

Reference 0590/17

Validated 08 Mar 17

Consultation Expiry 06 Apr 17

Target Determination 03 May 17

Decision Date 03 May 17

Decision – Grant

1.2.2 The Oldings, Hascot Hill, Battisford IP14 2HL Reference 1186/17

Erection of wooden cabin on concrete base

Validated 25 Mar 17

Consultation Expiry 25 Apr 17

Target Determination 20 May 17

Decision Date 23 May 17

Decision – Grant

1.2.3 1 Lionfield Cottage, Straight Road, Battisford IP14 2HD

Reference 1341/17

To re-render external walls, move front door, add front porch, change two doors into window openings Validated 05 May 17

Consultation Expiry 31 May 17

Target Determination 30 Jun 17

Decision Date 20 Jun 17

Decision – Grant

1.2.4 Paddock Cottage, Mill Road, Battisford IP14 2LL

Reference 1484/17

Erection of two storey extension

Validated 14 Apr 17

Consultation Expiry 08 May 17

Target Determination 09 Jun 17

Decision Date 09 Jun 17

Decision – Grant

1.2.5 6 Church Road, Battisford IP14 2HQ

Reference 1471/17

Erection of a garden shed

Validated 12 May 17

Consultation Expiry 02 Jun 17

Target Determination 07 Jul 17

Decision Date 27 Jul 17

Decision – Grant

1.2.6 Tye Cottage, Valley Road, Battisford IP14 2HW

Reference DC/17/03365

Householder Planning Application - Erection of extension to existing garage to form annex.

Validated 04 Jul 17

Consultation Expiry 02 Jun 17

Target Determination 23 Aug 17

Decision Date 29 Aug 17

Decision – Grant

### 1.3 Permitted Developments (Notification for Prior Approval)

1.3.1 The Tor, Straight Road, Battisford IP14 2HR

Reference DC/17/04421

Erection of rear conservatory

Validated 29 Aug 17

Determination Deadline 10 Oct 17

## 2.0 New Mid Suffolk Locality Funding initiative

A new Mid Suffolk District Council's Locality Award programme is now open and is welcoming applications until 16<sup>th</sup> February 2018. This is like the scheme that ran two years ago.

The programme means that each Mid Suffolk councillor has a £6,250 pot that he or she can use to award to projects or organisations that have a direct impact on Mid Suffolk communities. Funding awards can range from £250 upwards and each councillor can support up to 15 projects.

Applicants selected for an award must be able to demonstrate that their project, event or group meets one or more of Mid Suffolk's Strategic Priorities and where relevant should be able to demonstrate its sustainability over the coming years.

Any community groups wishing to apply for a share of the funding can do so by contacting me. We have tried to make this a very simple process, in that the form is short and simple to complete. Groups will be asked to supply a record of their spend or a final account at the end of their event or project. With the move towards paperless working, we are trying to keep this process as electronic as possible.

Awards may be made for a wide range of activities including BUT NOT LIMITED to: Sports tournaments, sports equipment, play equipment, pavilion updates, hearing loops, defibrillators, start-up lunch club, pop up cafes, coffee mornings, energy efficiency projects, promoting exercise and outdoor activities in rural areas, walking leaflets, walking festivals, dance classes, exercise classes, older peoples exercise, one off celebratory events recognising national or regional events. History projects resulting in a lasting benefit for the community. Contribution towards installation of WIFI in rural areas, enhancing local nature sites, training for volunteers, first aid, H&S safeguarding, fire safety training, group leader training, speed watch campaigns, anti-social behaviour and associated prevention activities.

### 3.0 New Local Plan Consultation

Mid Suffolk and Babergh are undertaking a thorough review of its adopted policies and allocations which will result in a new Joint Local Plan to guide development.

The Councils are currently consulting on the draft Consultation Document. This is an important document which will provide the strategy for the growth of the Districts, setting out what and where development will take place up to 2036. Residents, local businesses and stakeholders are being asked to have their say on the new Joint Local Plan. Once adopted, the new Joint Local Plan will replace the existing local planning policies for both Councils until 2036.

The Consultation Document and an interactive mapping system can be viewed on the Consultation Portal. This also offers you the opportunity to submit your comments. This is the quickest and easiest way to submit your views. Alternatively comments can be emailed or posted using the [Joint Local Plan printable comments form](#) which can be collected from the Council offices. If you are submitting additional development sites to the Council for consideration, please use the [Online Site Submission Form](#) with reference to the [Site Submission Guidance Notes](#). Paper copies can be obtained upon request from the Strategic Planning team at the Council.

Comments are required by 5pm on Friday 10th November 2017.

As part of the consultation the Councils will be holding a series of drop-in events. The most local is at Stowmarket on the 4th October at the United Reformed Church, Ipswich Street. It will run from 2pm - 7pm.

The most convenient local places where the Joint Local Plan Consultation Document and comments forms are available are as follows

- Council Offices, 131 High Street, Needham Market IP6 8DL
- Needham Market Library, School Street, Needham Market IP6 8BB
- Stowmarket Library, Milton Road, Stowmarket IP14 1EX

The new Joint Local Plan will be an important document and will influence all future development in our communities. Accordingly, I urge you to respond as a Parish Council and, should you chose to, as individuals. Our future will, literally, be shaped by the adopted Joint Local Plan.

### 4.0 Conclusion

I trust the forgoing is informative and relevant.

Finally, if there are specific matters that you would like me to investigate or report on – just ask.

Contacts details as follows:

[david.whybrow@midsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:david.whybrow@midsuffolk.gov.uk) [david@dswwhybrow.com](mailto:david@dswwhybrow.com)

07799 068 926

Or visit me at The Old Rectory, Stowmarket Road, Ringshall. IP14 2HZ

DRAFT