

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT FOR NEDGING & NAUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

11th SEPTEMBER 2018

Introduction

As you know, the Council tries to minimise business in August due to summer holiday plans etc and for this reason alone, my report this evening will be short.

Boundary Commission

The Boundary Commission has confirmed its final recommendations for restructuring the current Babergh Ward patterns. As expected the number of District Councillors will come down from 43 to 32 and the new Ward (SE Cosford) will comprise the parishes of – Aldham, Elmsett, Whatfield, Nedging & Naughton, Kersey, Semer, Chelsworth and Lindsey – two more than the present arrangement.

The Secretary of State is expected to sign off the new Ward structure for implementation at the next local elections in May 2019.

As regards my position, I need to clarify where I stand. I have been selected as a Conservative candidate for Babergh Council elections in 2019, but the process to select me (or not) as the candidate for SE Cosford is due to take place on **24th September 18**. If you are a member of the Conservative Association you should have been invited to attend the selection meeting in Semer Village Hall. Can I encourage you to go along.

Private Sector Housing

You will be pleased to know that following a recalculation using the gov't's formula, Babergh DC now **has a 5 year land supply** for the private sector housing. This will allow the Planning Committee more flexibility when assessing planning applications than has been the case over the last two years or so.

Merger of Babergh & MSDCs

As you know, the proposal to merge MS with Babergh was put on hold until Suffolk CC had the results of a study initiated by Colin Noble (the then Leader) into a Unitary Authority solution for Suffolk.

I am reliably informed that the new Leader of Suffolk CC is less enthusiastic about the concept and he has pressed the "pause" button with the study team. If this is the case, my expectation is that merger Babergh/MS will be back on the Agenda in the not too far distant future.

Disposal of Corks Lane Buildings

The recommendation for redevelopment of the old Babergh Council offices (about 56 houses/flats) is expected to go before the Planning Committee in October 18. I will keep you advised.

Angel Court

The plans for the redevelopment of Angel Court (21 x one and two bedroom flats) are pegged to the fence for inspection if you are interested. Good news story for Hadleigh. Much needed.

Parish Liaison Meeting

Planned for Thursday 11th October in Pinewood Community Hall, Ipswich. Hosted by Chief Exec.

Alan Ferguson