

## District Council Report

### Environment proposals

The Environmental task force set up last year have now finalised a set of proposals to help Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils achieve their ambition of becoming carbon neutral by 2030. Cabinets voted unanimously this week to support the proposals submitted.

The proposals will form the councils' first Carbon Reduction Management Plan, setting out how they aim to fulfil their ambitions of becoming carbon neutral within the next ten years.

The proposed actions are the first steps in achieving the long term objective to reduce the councils' current emissions of approximately 5,452 tonnes (Mt) of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e) per year, looking into how best to invest in order to reduce this to net zero.

The task force has taken expert advice on which areas to target first for the greatest impact

### Funding for Babergh Communities

Communities across Babergh received funding of nearly £300,000 last month. Projects in Sudbury, Newton and Chelsworth shared funding from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). The project in Chelsworth was particularly pleasing as it was one that I was involved in and involved a substantial contribution from CIL and the communities' team. The money will help the village regenerate the church into a community centre.

Chelsworth had no Neighbourhood CIL themselves and I highlight this to show that Babergh will be happy to contribute to communities from the local infrastructure fund.

### 971 bus

I was made aware by residents in Hadleigh and Kersey that the 971 bus that carried pupils from the village to Colchester schools is stopping. This will affect parents significantly. Whether this affects any villagers in Lindsey I am unaware at this stage, but if it does please let me know.

I am currently looking to work with the County Councillors affected to see if there is either, a way to save the current service, or alternatively find a suitable solution.

Although it has already been done, I have contacted James Cartlidge and Andrew Reid myself, adding as much support to the residents' case as possible. I have seen that there has been an article in the EADT's and if we can keep it in the press, that will also add weight to the cause. I have also spoken to Beestons.

## Premier Inn Sudbury

As published in the press recently Whitbread have pulled out of the deal to take on a hotel, for their Premier Inn chain, in Belle Vue park, Sudbury following the financial downturn caused by the coronavirus crisis. Many members of the council, including the Green Party councillors were against this deal and it has come as a relief in some ways. New ideas for the park are now being looked into.

## Wolsey Grange

On Friday the latest phase of the Wolsey Grange development was signed off by the Chief Planning Officer using delegated powers. This application, which is for another 305 properties was originally given outline permission in 2016. However, we would have expected it to come back to committee for reserved matters before it was agreed. To sign off a development of this size using the powers introduced as a result of the lockdown, with no further scrutiny by committee, is a concern that has been highlighted by a number of members.