

District Councillors Report to 17th July 2022

First of all what a treat it was to see the newly refurbished Hall at the Debenham Leisure centre and may I offer my congratulations to Penny Driver who has been elected Chair of the trustees at the DLC. Many financial contributions were raised throughout the area and MSDC indeed stepped up to the plate.

Mid Suffolk District council who owns Gateway 14 has secured conditional contracts to develop 1.2million square feet for a distribution unit on the site for Home, garden and leisure products retailer The Range. This will make a major contribution to the local and regional economy creating an estimated 1650 new jobs in the area. Outline planning permission has been granted in November 2021 and now a detailed reserved matters planning application has been drawn up and will be submitted to MSDC shortly. Really exciting and the administration is proud of their hard work and determination to see this through as many objected to the concept. This will allow MSDC to continue to provide those well needed services and of course keep our Council Tax low.

There is still time to take part in the Parking strategy survey on line which is open until the 31st July. Please look on Mid Suffolk District website for further information.

Energy rebate – In Mid Suffolk 28,943 households have received £4,341,450 which is 83% of those identified as potentially eligible.(these figures were pre 1st July) Households who do not pay their Council Tax by direct debit were issued a letter earlier this month instructing them how to claim their energy rebate – the cut off date for responding has now passed (4th July) and those remaining how did not respond will automatically be credited on the Council Tax accounts. (the return rate was 55%) People who raised queries have had letters sent to assist.

The shared prosperity fund was launched in April 2022 and many stakeholders have already been contacted and several projects have been identified from the Communities and Wellbeing strategies and the recently adopted recovery plan. Further funding is being sought in the second round.

To help local communities tackle the climate emergency a fund of £150k has opened up for not for profit organisations looking to deliver community based carbon reduction projects in Suffolk. Again check on the website please.

Duck and teapot car park at needham lake is having the car park repaired – a wonderful place to go and chill in this hot weather. Which brings me on to stay safe stay cool keep hydrated and have a covid free summer holiday period

Cllr Mrs Kathie Guthrie