District Councillors Report to 10 March 2021

Cllr Hicks our County Councillor continues to advise us of the data for the Covid Statistics.

Debenham Leisure Centre and the Doctors Nurses and Volunteers have made stirling efforts to get our communities vaccinated for the Covid Pandemic and I once again thank them for all they are doing.

A hardship fund is available for those households who are struggling to pay their council tax. Full details on MSDC website but it will be automatic for those who have already claimed Local Tax support.

Plans for Gateway 14 are now available to view on the Gateway 14 website which can be accessed via the MSDC website.

It was pleasing to note that in the bid for Free Port East as well as Harwich and Felixstowe, Gateway 14 is also included and was approved by Government last week. It is hoped many jobs will be created which will include manufacturing, green energy and innovation hubs with the aim of attracting companies and investors to the Region.

Aspall Cyder continue to update us on their authorised movements and improvements to the Storage tanks on site and movement of heavy cranes will be seen from time to time.

I have authorised another £1000 out of my locality budget for your village hall here at Ashfield cum Thorpe and I know there are other funding streams being investigated.

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY MONIES have been called upon and allocated to several projects from the last round of bids.

Haughley has been allocated £22595 for improvement to car parking facilities at the Ron Crascall Pavillion and a further £39.937 to install designated storage facilities which are used by the Scouts, Parish Council, Football Club and Royal British Legion. Previous facilities have been vandalised.

Mendlesham Health Centre has been allocated £370,000 to expand their facilities as they are running over capacity.

Gislingham Primary School has been allocated£18487 to partly fund the running track.

A figure of £50,000 has been allocated to the Stowmarket Depot to install a Hydrogenated Vegetable Oil (HVO) tank to assist to enable to fleet to use low carbon fuel so that up to 90% reduction in Carbon emissions can be achieved. Please note the Brown Bin collection will resume as from early this week 8th March.

Whilst I appreciate much of the above relates to other areas of our Community it demonstrates that Mid Suffolk District Council is working for the whole of the community and during the pandemic work carries on.

Many of you will note some excavations at the primary School end of Debenham. This is a site which has been allocated by the Debenham Neighbourhood plan for Development and matters are at an early stage before any submission of any plans.

Please also note there have been several burglaries locally to please stay, not only safe, but vigilant.

Cllr Mrs Kathie Guthrie – District Councillor for Debenham Ward.