District Councillors Report to 16 Dec 2013

I would be grateful if you could link the newsletter December 13 to my report. It does contain valuable information for the community.

It has been a busy month and I have attended several seminars and workshops. They were:-

**Sky Thinking workshop** - This related to housing for older persons. Lynden Jackson was also an attendee and it was a very useful and inspiring group of people ‘thinking outside the box’ on how to provide appropriate housing in both public and private sectors. I am also on a group trying to take some of these ideas forward.

**Green Energy Seminar.** – This was something a couple of other Councillors signed up to attend and was an independent gathering – not organised by or for Councils. I suppose you could say we attended incognito but it was open to all. They had a professional London Planner and he was excellent advising the audience on good quality pre application guidance for Wind farms, Solar Farms and large biomass producers. During Questions I pointed out that Mid Suffolk has one of the highest number of listed buildings and conservation areas in the country and that planners had to be minded of that fact as it had been missed from the presentation. We obtained very useful and informative information.

I also attended an excellent presentation from NATS regarding the potential re routing of flight paths for London City and Gatwick airports. Those affected were predominantly in the South and south east but just clipped an area over Bawdsey, Felixstowe and Ipswich then South towards Colchester which of course included Babergh area. There is a current consultation out but we identified they had failed to include the Bawdsey and Felixstowe consultees despite their protestations and the area this included was an AONB.

The reason I mention this is because once these two airports have concluded their consultation for new routes Stanstead, Luton and Heathrow will be reviewed and they will impact on us. They are however saying the planes will be at a height of 12 thousand descending to 7 thousand feet at about Sudbury and noise levels should be negligible and have little effect on air quality. If you want further information the website is www.londonairspaceconsultation.co.uk

I will keep you informed when a consultation affecting this area is held.

Car parking in Stowmarket can now be paid by Phone, app or online using a debit/credit card. You can still pay using cash. For further information go to www.myRingGoco.uk

Finally sorry I can’t be with you tonight but wish everyone a happy holiday and prosperous New Year,

Kathie Guthrie