

District councillors report to 9 April 2017

I am sure you are aware there are County Council Elections to be held on 4th May 2017. The count will take place on the 5th. Many District Councillors are also currently County Councillors and will be standing again with a few extra candidates doing the same and are affectionately known as 'Twin Hatters' Interesting times ahead.

The Office move to Endeavour House is geared for 1st September but there will be a small contact Office in the centre of Stowmarket.

Please also take time to look at the new website.

There are two local Licensing applications which are of interest to Debenham and surrounding districts. One for Aspal Cyder to enable them to sell their products on line. I have been making appropriate comments and research. Time for consultation closes 24th April.

The other one is for a one day only event licence at Debenham Hall for Recorded Music for 28th May 2017 from 09.00 to 17.00 and Supply of Alcohol for consumption on the premises 11.00 to 17.00. Vintage cars will be on show. I have asked that the Police are involved and appropriate traffic monitoring in place. We all know how difficult it is to negotiate Debenham Roads at the best of times. Consultation ends 17 April 2017.

Update on 0030/17 – The Butts. Further Technical advice has been sent in and the Planning Officer is still working and analysing before he makes a recommendation. As I have said it will be a Committee Decision but no date has been set.

I need to convey there is a shortage of housing all over the country and although there are many permissions granted in Mid Suffolk, it does not mean that the developers develop. That is why it is always good when we have smaller and locally controlled developments.

You may hear the expression that Councils do not have a five year land supply and many Councils (approximately 70%) do not have a five year land supply and unfortunately Mid Suffolk is no exception. You will have been sent the proposed sites in and around Debenham which may be considered over the next 20 years. I am sure such large sites will cause many people to be alarmed. Please be aware they are only sites which have been identified for potential consideration. The Parish Council has worked extremely hard to get their Neighbourhood Plan in place and I can only recommend a swift adoption and conclusion on this to enable the Planners to have a clear directive on where sites/housing might be allocated.

Cllr Mrs Kathie Guthrie