

District Councillors report to 16 feb 2017

Avian Flu – Really distressing and heartbreaking for the business at Redgrave. I have been passing on all information as I have been getting it but if people have concerns ring Deffra helpline 03000200 301 or mon compliance to Trading Standards 01473264859

There has been a change of governance at MSDC and Councillors have adopted the Cabinet Leader Model which will enable Babergh and Mid Suffolk to be smaller, smarter and swifter. With a clear and effective governance they will be able to demonstrate and achieve successful outcomes and that is what the Council is about. Serving the community. They have not had to cut any front line services and the forward projections are aiming at the same outcome for 2016/17.

With ever decreasing funding from Central Government, who keep moving the goal posts, MSDC have to make efficiencies. The Council is currently within budget and hopes that is the same position at the end of the year

To increase income the Council is looking for different funding streams. Additional income has been generated from Trade Waste and Brown Bin service. Building control has increased its income. There was a one off payment of £30k from the voltaic panels on Council housing with its knock on effect of cheaper electricity to the tenants. The Council has also set up a Capital Investment Fund Company which will be an exciting investment opportunity for the Council.

Members have also asked for a Boundary Committee review and it looks likely the number of Councillors will reduce to 36 at Mid Suffolk , currently 40 and less at Babergh.

As you know the two Councils are moving to Endeavour House. However Mid Suffolk will retain a public office in Stowmarket and one in Sudbury for Babergh

Planning- as you know the outline planning permission for 'up to 34 dwellings' at the butts has come in again with the proposed exit onto London Road. I am watching and listening to the communities' views and ensuring all avenues researched correctly . The application will go to committee but no date set as yet. Unfortunately because the Neighbourhood plan is not in place little weight will be given to this by the planning Officer when he makes his considerations known

I am happy to assist on any of the other planning matters before you.

Kathie Guthrie

District councillor