

District councillors Report to 18 March 2018

The Mid Suffolk District Council Tax increases are set to rise at 0.5% which equates to to .81p per annum For a Band D Property, Larger homes will pay £1.62 and the smallest homes will pay an extra 54p per annum. With prudence and collaborative working not only have the increases been kept low but smart ways of working have been helping too. Which brings me on nicely to the fact that Mid Suffolk District council and Babergh District council have won a silver award in Council of the year category of the 2018 Public transformation awards.

Unfortunately many of you will have experienced, as I have too, problems with the online IT system for planning. Senior Management are aware of this and down time continues at certain periods but I do hope everyone is able to access the planning system eventually.

MSDC have also been awarded £10,000 to assist littering/flytipping. Not a lot, I know and the Winston Litter Pick had to be postponed due to the bad weather this week. I know how hard all the volunteers work in our ward.

I believe I will have a locality budget for the year 2018/2019 and in my end of year report I will advise where last years budget was spent. However two notable events spring to mind for the forthcoming year and I wonder if groups might be able to get together to celebrate 'Suffolk Day' and also the OVO Energy Women's Cycle tour which I also believe will pass through Debenham in June . I do hope the pot holes will have been repaired but that is for SCC so I suggest you get on their website and advise of potholes now!

However the last time we had the cycle tour through our Village Debenham did us proud and I suggested the Shops did a competition and dress up their windows and that too was a huge success. There was much merriment in the High Street and I wonder if someone might take this idea and all the other events which occurred forward again this year. I hope to be able to assist in funding some events but we need to crack on now!

Apart from seemingly spending nearly every day at Endeavour house and working very hard on the planning meetings of late I do not have anything tangible to report for the Debenham area and its ongoing current planning applications.

Kathie Guthrie

District councillor