

September 2023

Bures St Mary & Nayland

Report to the Parishes – Bures St Mary, Nayland with Wissington, Stoke by Nayland

Council & Cabinet

There was no Council Meeting in August and the scheduled Cabinet Meeting was cancelled.

Councils announce new raft of business grants

Businesses in Babergh and Mid Suffolk are set to benefit from a new round of funding thanks to the Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF)

Free business support on offer for Babergh and Mid Suffolk start-ups

Babergh and Mid Suffolk Councils have teamed up with MENTA to offer start-up businesses free expert support and guidance.

Councils review support for residents struggling with cost of living crisis

Support for residents struggling with the cost of living crisis was back on the agenda last month – with further help planned for those in need.

MORE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE VIA THE BMSDC WEBSITE www.babergh.gov.uk

Funding & Locality Grants

There are a great many different funding opportunities for community projects, large and small: I would encourage community groups seeking project funding to contact me. Just one of the many possibilities is the Locality Budget, the £2,000 per year that each District Councillor has to allocate to groups within their ward. (As yet I have only received one enquiry for this year's allocation.)

AONB Joint Advisory Committee (JAC) & Dedham Vale AONB & Stour Valley Partnership

In my capacity as member of the above organizations I attended an online Presentation by Dedham Vale AONB on the rebranding of Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Among other things they are to be known as 'National Landscapes'. I would urge everyone who is interested in the future of our AONB to consult the NAAOB website <https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/> to learn how the changes will affect everyone living & working in or visiting our region.

Joint Audit & Standards Committee

My first meeting of this Committee took place at the end of July: the Annual Returns (Accounts, Audit & Governance) were presented, reviewed and approved, as was the Annual Complaints Monitoring Report. Two areas of non-compliance were noted. Full details can be found on the District Council Website. The next A & S Committee Meeting is 25th September, and will include a review of the local elections presented by the Chief Executive, Arthur Charvonia

Pylons, Broadband, Anglia Water Pipeline, Boxted Mill Bridge

Along with Colleagues at Babergh and on Parish Councils I am working to address issues arising from larger scale projects, by arranging ward-wide & cross-ward meetings to discuss issues of common interest. Following considerable disruption caused by on-going works, I met with three representatives of County Broadband on Tuesday 5th September to discuss areas of concern: I would urge anyone who has experienced serious inconvenience to contact me and share their experiences with me.

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