


District Councillor Report: Bacton Ward – Oct. 2023

Bacton, Cotton, Finningham, Westhorpe and Wyverstone parishes

State of the District Report	<p>The council recently produced our first State of the District report. It tells the story of our district through data and insight across a range of themes spanning the economy, the environment, resident health and wellbeing, community issues and housing. See attached PDF document.</p>
	<p>Mid Suffolk District Council has launched a consultation process to get residents' feedback on the planned priorities for the District. We are hoping to engage with as wide a section of the district as possible, including some groups which seldom get involved, as well as businesses and Town and Parish Councils. There is an online survey which gives you the opportunity to have your say about our initial ideas - see PDF document and link below. Consultation ends 15 November 2023.</p> <p>https://baberghandmidsuffolk.citizenlab.co/en-GB/projects/setting-the-future-direction-of-your-councils</p>
BMSDC Joint Local Plan	<p>The Planning Inspectorate have completed the inspection of the Joint Local Plan part 1 and reported that it is 'sound', so it now needs to be formally adopted by Full Council. Planning policy officers are now able to focus on Part 2 of the plan which will include the housing allocations. All the documentation is available on the website. The details of this may all seem rather dull but they are vital for our ability to better control the planning process.</p> <p>http://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/jointlocalplan</p>
Help for older residents	<p>MSDC is supporting Silver Sunday Campaigns to help tackle loneliness for older residents. Events are being held in Eye, Stowmarket and Needham Market over the next few weeks to bring young people into care homes – but involving the wider community - for sing-alongs, games and social activities.</p>
Ready Steady Rent	<p>Dozens of people in temporary accommodation Mid Suffolk will be helped to break the cycle of homelessness thanks to a new training scheme. This will involve interactive learning sessions to potential tenants, helping to build their confidence and skills around basic domestic maintenance, budgeting and the everyday responsibilities of a home.</p>
Rural transport	<p>MSDC has agreed funding of £820k for rural transport services. The plan is to implement a 'grant' scheme for existing transport operators to enhance existing rural transport provision with set routes and use more sustainable transport options where appropriate.</p>
Climate roadshow events	<p>MSDC are staging a Community Climate Action Roadshow, which will give residents the chance to speak to local groups and organisations regarding climate action. The roadshow visited Eye on Sat 7th October, and will then be at Bramford on Sat 21st October and as part of the Stowmarket Town Council's Go Green Go Wild event on Tues 24th October, during half term</p>

Cllr Andy Mellen

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