

## Mid Suffolk District Council Report for Onehouse Ward – November 2025

<b>New Local Plan ‘call for sites’ opens</b>	<p>Mid Suffolk District Council is developing its new Local Plan, which involves identifying sites for development as well as setting the policies used to determine planning permission (alongside national planning policies and Neighbourhood Plans.) This plan will set out a framework for guiding planning decisions to the mid-2040s.</p> <p>As part of this work, a ‘Call for Sites’ was opened on 20 October. This runs until 5pm on 9 January 2026. This call invites submissions of land to be put forward for consideration to be included in the Local Plan - for uses such as housing, employment, sports and leisure and community purposes. It is important to note that the Call for Sites will not determine whether a site should be allocated for future development and does not give it any planning status. All sites will need to be assessed further, and the overall strategy for the Local Plan will be informed by a range of evidence as well as feedback from consultations. More information about this process can be found here:  <a href="https://www.babergh.gov.uk/web/babergh/w/call-for-sites">https://www.babergh.gov.uk/web/babergh/w/call-for-sites</a></p>
<b>Green Skills Summit for schools</b>	<p>The second Schools Green Skills Summit was held on 10<sup>th</sup> October. Around 90 students from across 11 schools in Babergh and Mid Suffolk took part in an event to encourage a better understanding of how climate change can be addressed, and to learn about relevant careers. More details can be found online. <a href="https://www.babergh.gov.uk/w/babergh-and-mid-suffolk-councils-schools-green-skills-summit">https://www.babergh.gov.uk/w/babergh-and-mid-suffolk-councils-schools-green-skills-summit</a></p>
<b>Upcoming changes to bin collections</b>	<p>Suffolk Recycles is currently running a social media campaign to prepare residents for the upcoming changes to bin collections in the area from 2026. It is important for us all to ensure that people get the correct information - please do direct residents to this website <a href="https://www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk/recycling-composting/recycling-at-home/better-recycling">https://www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk/recycling-composting/recycling-at-home/better-recycling</a> where the facts are clearly laid out.</p>
<b>Purchase of new green space in Thorndon</b>	<p>Mid Suffolk District Council has purchased 60 acres of land in Thorndon. The site offers opportunities for increased public access to green space for the local area. It also has potential for natural flood management projects to help reduce flooding locally, as well as increasing biodiversity. Detailed plans are being developed alongside local residents.</p>
<b>Cabinet meeting October</b>	<p>The main agenda item was to approve the Nature Recovery Strategy, which has been developed in conjunction with the County Council. This will guide a range of projects and work into the future. See <a href="https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/planning-waste-and-environment/local-nature-recovery-strategy-lnrs">https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/planning-waste-and-environment/local-nature-recovery-strategy-lnrs</a></p>
<b>Council meeting October</b>	<p>Licensing policies were updated, new fees set for monitoring Biodiversity Net Gain and the State of the District Report was approved see <a href="https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/w/research-and-insight">https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/w/research-and-insight</a></p>
<b>Locality Budget</b>	<p>Subject to submission of application forms and quotes, I have now allocated all the budget for 2025/26. I’m always willing to discuss new ideas for projects needing support, as the 2026/27 budget will open after the May elections.</p>
<b>Council grants</b>	<p>For information on Mid Suffolk council grants available to support community projects and organisations, please see: <a href="https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/community-funding">https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/community-funding</a> or email <a href="mailto:BMSDCgrants@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk">BMSDCgrants@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk</a> for advice on funding options.</p>

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