

PAUL CLOVER, DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT FOR LAVENHAM PARISH MEETING 5th OCTOBER 2023.

Joint Local Plan

Finally, Planning Inspectors have delivered their verdict on Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Council's Joint Local Plan as 'sound'. This is the blueprint for the districts' future development until 2037, providing clarity for communities and developers.

Babergh's Vision for next 4 years

Pending cabinet approval on October 3, BDC will be embarking on a major engagement exercise with residents, communities, businesses, stakeholders and partners – so they can tell us whether they think the council are focusing on the right issues. This will then help shape the council's priorities and the refreshed Corporate Plan. Babergh would be grateful for the support of our town and parish council colleagues in helping to spread the word.

Meanwhile, **State of the District reports** have also been published for Babergh providing a treasure trove of useful data on issues such as housing, environment, health and wellbeing, and the local economy. Insight from these reports is also helping influence future council priorities.

Meadow Close Play Area

Further to the assertion from Babergh that the play area equipment is inspected on a weekly basis to ensure the safety of the equipment plus lack of detail as to what the weekly/quarterly/annual inspections entail. We have challenged their position and asked for an on-site meeting to clarify as the claims are inconsistent with the photographic evidence we have previously provided.

Meadow Close re- routing of overhead power lines

Further to consultation on removal of Transformer and pylon and rerouting of overhead cables underground we have set up a meeting between Fisher German LLP and Babergh Council in order that the new cables can be connected to the existing pole on Babergh owned land.

Town of the Year

As you may well know Sudbury has taken the coveted town of the Year award for Suffolk. Amongst other things it was praised for the number of its initiatives and sustainable development.

Climate Action Roadshow

The CAR will visit Sudbury on Saturday 14th October between 9am and 12 noon at Sudbury Hive Community Hub.

Solar Panels – Planning

You should be aware that it is the intention of the cabinet to introduce a policy to allow for the installation of solar panels on Grade 2 listed buildings provided they are not visible from the highway. If you have any concerns in this regard, please contact the Planning office at BDC.

And finally... Pets as prizes are to be banned within BD and work on the loos in Gaol Lane in Sudbury have finally commenced.