

PAUL CLOVER/MARGARET MAYBURY DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT 6TH JUNE 2024.

Capital Grants

Capital Grants are now available to assist community groups in making improvements and repairs to social infrastructure. This may include:

- village halls
- play areas
- sports clubs
- recreational facilities

Capital Grants are available to up to 100% of total project costs to a maximum grant of £10,000. Successful applicants will be required to deliver their project within 8 months of an offer being accepted, and provide three quotes for the proposed works. Capital Grants are open for applications between **Monday 13th May and Sunday 14th July 2024**, and will be assessed against a scoring matrix. There will be a second round of Capital grant funding later on this year.

Applicants should contact the Grants team in the first instance. A video is also available alongside a guidance document.

New bin waste collection system

In line with Govt legislation, Babergh is to introduce a new waste collection service which ultimately could comprise an up to 5 bins per household system. Food waste will be a new separate category to mitigate against food going into landfill. (This can also be further mitigated by household composting). On the recycling side, household glass is to be introduced alongside the present other three bin collections. The implementation of this new service is scheduled for 2026.

BDC Annual Meeting

BDC Annual meeting took place on Monday 20th May. Deborah Saw has been elected as the new Council Leader. The proposal to elect Councillor Holt as Chair of Overview & Scrutiny, on the basis that he was outside the Coalition received strong support but was narrowly defeated.

General Election

With general election set for 4th July, the normal rules apply in terms of the pre-election period commencing 3rd June 2024 whereby there should be no activity that actively seeks to promote a political party. More information about registering to vote, postal votes and ID requirements can be found on the Babergh website.

753 bus service

As mentioned at the Annual meeting, the 753 bus service is now running an enhanced service to include evening and weekend journeys. Any single journey is capped at £2 only.

Joint Local Plan call for sites/supplementary documents

A list is now available of the sites put forward but have yet to be assessed in terms of merit. Furthermore, three draft supplementary documents on biodiversity and trees/ housing/ livestock and poultry have been prepared for consultation in relation to development proposals.

Consultation period ends 4pm, Wednesday 19th June 2024. Full details on both these matters can be found on the Babergh website.

Suffolk Community Awards

Nominations are now open for Suffolk Community Awards to celebrate all those who have improved the quality of life for communities in Suffolk. There are 17 awards in total and entries can be submitted online up to Sunday 14th July 2024.

Two Award wins for Sudbury area

The Royal Institute of British Architects has bestowed Gainsborough House with the 'East of England Building of the Year and Conservation Award 2024.'

The Churches Conservation Trust have received the Museums + Heritage's Restoration and Conservation Project of the Year Award 2024 for the redevelopment of St Peter's Church into Sudbury Arts Centre.

The awards followed funding grants from Babergh District Council.

Suffolk's Nature Recovery Strategy

Norfolk and Suffolk Nature Recovery Partnership have launched two surveys, one each for the public and landowners to find out what aspects are most important to local residents. Feedback will ensure members of the public's views are represented. Both surveys close on 30th June 2024.