

PAUL CLOVER/MARGARET MAYBURY DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT FOR LAVENHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 2ND JULY 2026.

Broken Grille/Trash Screen at culvert by Lavenham Butchers. Flooding issue 00530805.

After much chasing, have finally received the following response from Councillor Hudson's office:

'The section of watercourse and associated grille are private assets. As such, it is the responsibility of the riparian owner to determine how and when maintenance is carried out. Riparian owners are required to undertake general maintenance to ensure the free flow of water. However, there is no legal requirement to install or maintain additional features such as grilles or trash screens. These are considered above and beyond statutory obligations. Therefore, it is entirely at the landowner's discretion whether they choose to repair, replace, or remove the feature.'

For more information regarding Riparian owners please use the following link: [Riparian ownership in Suffolk - Suffolk County Council](#).

Therefore, it appears that the watercourse, grille are private assets belonging to Lavenham Butcher's next door neighbour. Perhaps a gentle enquiry as to their thoughts on this matter would be the best approach. I would be happy to facilitate this, if required to do so.

Joint Local Plan – scoping consultation

A scoping consultation has now been launched inviting residents to share their views in terms of how they would like to see their communities developed in terms of social, economic, environmental factors including housing. We have been informed that further news about the Call for Sites register will be published towards the end of the year.

Better Recycling

The new collection rounds and crews are still in the process of bedding in and gradually improving the service. The phone system is still heavily over subscribed and the best way to make contact is still recycling@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk

In the event that your bin hasn't been emptied on the due date, please check the 'my bin hasn't been emptied' page on the Babergh website. If your road is listed, continue to leave your bin out and the crew will return as soon as possible, generally the next day.

LGR

SCC's political leadership has now formally agreed to mount a legal challenge to LGR in Suffolk. This will not affect the implementation work currently underway or the day-to-day running of the council.

Sudbury Bus Station Improvements

£250k has been awarded to improve Sudbury bus station for passengers and operators alike.

BDC and SCC are also to carry out a feasibility study to explore long term options for the site.

Healthy Start support for Suffolk families

Over 1,000 families in Suffolk are failing to claim the support available to them. The scheme helps with supplying healthy food options and increased payments are now available. Please pass this information on to any families who you think may be eligible. www.healthystart.nhs.uk

Suffolk Wine Trail

To help promote Suffolk's growing vineyard industry and wine tourism there is now a new website at Visit Suffolk which includes more information about the trail and an interactive map.