

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT OCTOBER 2025 – CLLRS PAUL CLOVER AND MARGARET MAYBURY

Cllr Maybury finally received a visit to the village from an Officer regarding the empty Angel Hotel which is of concern to both herself and local residents. The Officer from the Economic Development team confirmed she would contact the selling agent and report on issues of repair, security, lack of advertising boarding and the unofficial security door on a heritage building.

At the same time the Officer reported back with details of help for small businesses. See Appendix. I had confirmed the “Love Lavenham” group are also eligible for these grants, but businesses are only able to claim 50% for any project.

Tenants at Tenterpiece are replying to the consultation on removing the sheltered part of their housing agreement.

Cllr Clover continues to intercede on the effect of car parking charges within the village as well as in Sudbury.

As District Councillors we are both very aware of the impact of the implementation of car parking charges has had on the parish as well as the changes to the community caretaker scheme and the loss of donations to the Parish Council for car parking.

Residents have voiced their concern to us over the speed of traffic on the bridge end of the village at the junction of Preston Road.

Residents have also voiced their concern on the box hedging within the churchyard which is impeding passage along the pathways plus the sharp edging of brambles and holly bushes is causing catching on clothing.

The “Living Well in Winter” grant is now open until 10th October for groups who provide community well-being projects; coffee mornings, warm spaces, lunch clubs etc.

<https://www.babergh.gov.uk/w/grant-returns-to-tackle-winter-loneliness>

At our last Babergh Council meeting the joint local councils’ proposal for three unitary councils was approved by majority decision.

Again, the Planning Committee refused an application by majority decision for affordable housing within a village this week. The application included twelve affordable units and six market units. My group colleague and I voted for such a development which would have brought much needed housing within the parish of Bentley.

Better Recycling is explained on the Suffolk Recycles website which comes into force in April 2026.

<https://www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk/recycling-composting/recycling-at-home/better-recycling>

Lastly, I would urge all our residents who are eligible for the annual flu and covid boosters to apply for this winter help.

Appendix 1:

The Babergh Council Economic Development teams has advised: In terms of grants and business support, all the information about schemes is on our website - [Business Support - Heart of Suffolk](#)

- The Growth Hub can offer free, 1-1 support and free workshops ([Events from 19 May 2022 – 14 February 2023 › Suffolk Events › – New Anglia Growth Hub](#))
- Groundworks can offer free decarbonisation plans for businesses
- BMSDC via the Rural Prosperity Fund can offer capital grants to businesses up to £15k for investment in improvements to their business including solar panels

Appendix 2:

What does this mean for you?

From 2026, you will have up to 5 bins to ensure that you are able to dispose of your waste correctly. As well as the materials we already collect, we'll also start collecting the following from households directly:

- glass bottles and jars
- cartons
- food waste (on a weekly basis)
- plastic film (from 2027)

FROM 2026

From 2026, every council in Suffolk will start to collect a core set of materials for recycling, this scheme is called 'Better Recycling'. This means that more materials will be collected at the kerbside.

Paper & Card



Cardboard



Paper

Containers



Glass bottles & jars



Metal food & drinks cans



Cartons



Plastic pots, tubs, trays & bottles

Food Waste



Plate scrapings



Meat (inc bones)



Fish (inc bones)



Fruit & veg



Tea bags & coffee grounds



Breads



Dairy

General Rubbish



Soiled fast food containers



Bagged vacuum contents



Nappies



Bagged animal waste



Other non recyclable waste

Garden Waste

Subscription only



Small branches



Leaves



Dead plants & flowers



Grass trimmings