

# **PAUL CLOVER/MARGARET MAYBURY DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT FOR LAVENHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 4<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2025.**

## **Local Govt Reorganisation**

This continues to be a very fast moving programme and we are currently receiving a number of briefings on LGR including one from the leader of Cumbria Unitary Authority.

## **Community Thermal Imaging Project**

A Keep the Heat project enables community groups and town/parish councils to borrow thermal imaging cameras from the Suffolk Climate Action Team to carry out heat loss surveys for local residents. Training and resources will be provided so the cameras can be used to scan homes from the roadside. Where areas of heat loss are detected, residents can then take steps to reduce energy bills and carbon footprint. Interested parties should complete the Keep the Heat expression of interest form by Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September.

## **Six new electrical Recycling Banks**

Babergh has set up six recycling banks across the district. The pink bins are easy to identify and anything smaller than a four slice toaster can be recycled there. The closest locations are the Cock Inn coach park, Lavenham; the Old School car park, Long Melford and the Stevenson Centre, Great Cornard.

## **Eezybike pods**

The pods are now installed in the Cock Inn car park and we will follow with interest what the uptake in these bikes will be going forward.

## **Car Park charges update**

Via the offices of Overview and Scrutiny we have requested an update on the latest data received since car parking charges were implemented in Lavenham, Sudbury and Hadleigh in January 2025. In speaking to 71 retailers in Lavenham and Sudbury, 4 said that turnover had improved for Feb- Apr 25 v 24, 14 said that sales were flatlining and the remaining 53 reported turnover had dropped, some significantly. The general view was that residents were not visiting as much as they used to.

The O and S meeting is on 15<sup>th</sup> September at 9.30 am at Endeavour House. There will be an opportunity for Members of the Public to ask questions or they can submit questions in writing beforehand. Questions have to be submitted by Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September. A full review of car park charges has been scheduled for February 2026.