

**Appendix C – County Cllr. Penny Otton’s Report to Full Council –**

- Cost of Living help and advice:  
<https://infolink.suffolk.gov.uk/kb5/suffolk/infolink/family.page?familychannel=6>
- Benefits advice and support:  
<https://infolink.suffolk.gov.uk/kb5/suffolk/infolink/adult.page?adultchannel=0>
- Pylon plan not supported by SCC - Suffolk County Council is not supporting the latest proposals by the National Grid to install 114 miles of electricity pylons across the county as part of the “Norwich to Tilbury” project. A number of objections have been raised about the 33 mile stretch of the new works which would run through Suffolk, which includes installing a stretch of cabling under the Dedham Vale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The council is pressing for an offshore solution to be fully researched and considered.
- Ixworth Road: this is now with the legal team. Sam Harvey has said if she has had no response from the developers 2 weeks after 26<sup>th</sup> August it will go to legal team, and I have been told it will also be with MSDC enforcement, Simon Bailey.
- Lighting at new development; Sam Harvey is looking into this and the pedestrian crossing
- Thurston Community College: revised planning application to provide parking for new science block due to the original land not yet available.
- Hedgehog Signs: following a request by a resident I have asked SCC how to proceed and this has been passed to yourselves to discuss first.
- Fishwick Corner: I have asked the cabinet member if the proposed safety work could take place NOW before the development begins, he says this cannot happen.
- Onshore facility proposal for Suffolk Coast - Suffolk County Council was disappointed to learn that the LionLink interconnector project from National Grid Ventures has identified an alternative landfall at Walberswick, with cable routing making its way to the north of Southwold. The Lionlink project aims to connect multiple offshore wind farms in the North Sea, instead of individual wind farms connecting one by one to the shore. The project is a joint venture between the UK and the Netherlands, supplying energy to both countries. The Council will study the details of the new proposals, and will prepare its response to the National Grid’s second public consultation, which opens on 8 September.
- 2023 Tour of Britain Cycle Race - The world’s best cyclists will be taking to the roads of Suffolk on 7 September, including Tour de France champions. This fifth stage of the national race will start in Felixstowe at 10.45am and go through Kesgrave, Ipswich, Hadleigh, Needham Market, Stowmarket, Framlingham, Leiston and Woodbridge before finishing back in Felixstowe at around 3.30pm. For details of the route and timings, please see the plans for Stage Five on the Tour of Britain website:  
<https://www.tourofbritain.co.uk/stages/stage-five/>
- New Fire and Rescue Service Training Centre - The Suffolk Fire and Rescue Training Centre at Wattisham has had a £1.3m upgrade and was formally opened on 24 August. This includes a new tactical firefighting facility to simulate incidents firefighters may be faced with and help them prepare for the dangerous work they undertake in the community.
- Social Worker of the Year Awards 2023 - Suffolk County Council’s social workers and social care teams have been shortlisted for six awards at the annual Social Worker of the Year Awards. We are really proud of our social workers, who work so hard to help people in often challenging circumstances. The winners will be announced at the awards ceremony in November this year.
- Support for Ukrainian refugees moving to private rented accommodation - In May, Suffolk County Council announced a one-off £2,000 support grant for Ukrainian refugees moving on from their host

into their own accommodation. The Independent Living Payment is available to any Ukrainian refugees moving into private rented accommodation after 1 April 2023. Guests must have been living in Suffolk for a minimum of two months and be registered on the Suffolk Homes for Ukraine scheme to be eligible for the payment. This funding can be used for any associated housing costs, including furniture, moving costs or travel to work. The support can be used towards accommodation which is furnished or unfurnished, and accommodation can be in Suffolk or out of county. Ukrainian guests can apply for the Independent Living Payment and completing the application form on the Suffolk County Council website:

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/community-and-safety/communities/community-engagement/support-for-refugees/support-for-ukraine/ukraine-information-for-guests>

#### **Appendix D - District Cllr's Report to Full Council – Cllrs. David Bradbury and Austin Davies**

- MSDC Meeting - No Mid Suffolk District Council held in August.
- MSDC launched 'Pride in your Place' initiative. All Parish Councils are invited to apply for grants to help improve the look of all of our villages.
- Planning - MSDC lost the appeal DC/19/02090 (Gladman) for 210 homes to the North of Ixworth Road, Thurston, however, the council is taking legal action to overturn this decision.
- CIL applications - Supported Norton Village Halls application for £100K towards its redevelopment.
- Autumn Tree/hedge planting - Appreciate that this is a direct repeat, however, can you please consult with your communities on potential areas for tree/hedge planting and then contact us with the details.
- Locality grants - David has received applications from the Thurston Parish Council to support the Local Bus project. Both David and Austin approved two applications of support from the Thurston Scouts for new recreational equipment.

#### **Mid Suffolk District Council – Town and Parish Update – September 2023**

Councils review support for residents struggling with cost-of-living crisis - Support for residents struggling with the cost of living crisis was back on the agenda last month – with further help planned for those in need. [Find out more](#)

Councils' commercial property arm continues to generate income for districts - Babergh and Mid Suffolk's commercial property investment company CIFCO generated £2.5m in net income to support the council finances last year, reports published last month show. [Find out more](#)

Councils announce new raft of business grants - Businesses in Babergh and Mid Suffolk are set to benefit from a new round of funding thanks to the Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF). [Find out more](#)  
Free business support on offer for Babergh and Mid Suffolk start-ups - Babergh and Mid Suffolk Councils have teamed up with MENTA to offer start-up businesses free expert support and guidance. [Find out more](#)

Community clean-ups and pride of place key aims of council's new campaign - Mid Suffolk District Council has launched a campaign to clean-up neighbourhoods, build community pride and tackle the doorstep issues that voters said mattered to them. [Find out more](#)

Tree-mendous teamwork after unusual discovery - Councillors and public realm officers work together to save a six-metre-high silver birch discarded at the roadside in Stowmarket. [Find out more](#)