

District Councillor Report: Debenham Ward – July 2026
Serving Ashfield-cum-Thorpe, Aspell, Beddingfield, Debenham, Kenton & Winston
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Community Information:	Debenham River Week I wanted to say a big thank you to all those involved in River Week which was put on by multiple organisations but most importantly Debenham Green Team, The Parish Council and UDOG. Much went on during the first week of June, from Garbology with the Scouts, No Rain down the Drain (Yellow Fish) with the Primary School, Making your own environmentally friendly Cleaning products, the formal launch of the Upper Deben Owners Group (UDOG) along with stalls from those involved with the River Deben at the Church on Saturday. Much was discussed. If anyone is a riparian owner and would like to get involved in UDOG and what they are doing in respect of flood resilience then do get in touch. Update on Better Recycling. We have had a really excellent start to recycling more and I know I'm enjoying putting out my food bin every week but I do know that not everyone had received their new bins in time. The extra food collection team is also brand new so there will be teething problems to begin with as they are both learning their new routes and finding all the food bins to collect. Mid Suffolk are collecting weekly, so if anyone has a missed food bin do let Mid Suffolk know (or me). I understand the phone lines are busy so if you are able to report your missed collection on the online form it would be much appreciated. If in doubt contact me. The government has given funds and you can apply for the Crisis Resilience Grant on our website or by contacting us if you are finding it difficult to cover bills. In addition to this our REACH team are now out and about (Retrofit & Energy Advice to Communities and Households). You may not be thinking of saving energy in these summer months, but the team are coming to a place near you. Did you know homeowners and small businesses in England and Wales can now receive up to £9,000 through the governments Boiler Upgrade Scheme (BUS) to replace an existing oil or LPG heating system with a heat pump. Did you know that our Cosy Homes Grant scheme of £5,000 is open to households earning up to £60,000. This and more information to improve energy efficiency and reduce bills will be available to talk through with our new Community Energy Advice Officers at their stand in Stowmarket during the Food & Drink festival on 5th July. The summer is a good time to become part of climate action and get it all done before the winter sets in, so come talk to one of our officers on the 5th who aim to provide trusted advice. Our team are planning a number of visits to places over mid Suffolk to give advice 'in situ'. Do let me know if you would like this to come to your village. Save the Date 12th July – Suffolk Celebration of Cycling at Food Museum in Stowmarket. Lots for all the family and not only is it celebrating all things cycling but our Sustainable Travel Officer will have a stand and be there talking about buses and walking routes too!
Drop In, Cabinet and Council Dates:	<u>Mid Suffolk in July</u> Reminder that my drop in surgeries will be on Monday 13th July from 9:00am-11:00am at The Coffee House on the High Street in Debenham and at the Debenham Leisure Centre from 9am-11:00am on Monday 20th July. It is always good to speak to people and help with any issue. The next full council meeting is set for 23rd July as well as the next Cabinet on 16th July. Do let me know if you have a question or concern you want to put to the council or cabinet. My contact details are above, please use them and you can also keep up to date by signing up/linking to our social media, just go to www.midsuffolk.gov.uk.