

District Councillor Report: Debenham Ward – June 2026

Serving Ashfield-cum-Thorpe, Aspull, Bedingfield, Debenham, Kenton & Winston

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Community Information:	Grants in the Community I thought as we enter the new financial year of the District Council I would update you on what grants there are and where to find them. As you may be aware my locality grant is open and I am able to help fund community groups or organisations in many different ways. Applications can be made from £250 up to around £5,000 depending on the project and positive impact on the community. In addition to this we have grants for sports, community asset purchase, culture, living well, pride in your place and nature recovery to name a few of those on offer. A full list can be found on our grants page, https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/community-funding Update on the Better Recycling move in our Waste Collection We are now in June when the new way of collecting rubbish is underway and everyone should now have received a pack in the post which has a letter with calendar on the reverse, a fold out booklet to show you what can be recycled where and an FAQ (frequently asked questions) booklet to help guide you further. These materials are available in large print and multiple languages so do ask if you need this. Last year, businesses (with 10 or more employees) were obliged to commence <i>Better Recycling</i> but Smaller businesses are not required to comply until 2027, so something for them to be aware of and prepare for. If you have any problems please let me know or contact our team on 0300 1234 000 and press '4' for the waste team. <i>Community Glass Bottle and Jar Banks ('bottle banks')</i> - Communities have received 2 years worth of collection fees to compensate for changes to these collections and to give them time to make alternative income arrangements if possible, such as clothing banks. You will notice the bottle banks will be removed in May 2027 now that glass can be collected from peoples front door. The Stowmarket Innovation Gateway (SIG) building is now complete and is looking fantastic and I am very much looking forward to the formal opening to local business at the end of June, along with a much wider official launch in July. It has been designed to help and support both businesses and individuals with innovation, training and skills enhancement and can provide up to the minute tech. I have been advised that the connections there have such fast speeds that you can download 10,000 movies a second. It is hoped that a good number of budding and existing business looking to innovate themselves will rent the space provided for businesses and use the communal, conference and training facilities. From a mail base, hot desks to full sized office space there are facilities to suit all types of business.
More to come Drop In/Cabinet and Council Dates:	Mid Suffolk in June Reminder that my drop in surgeries will be on Monday 15th June 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 22nd June. It is lovely to have the chance to speak to people and help with any issue. The next full council meeting is set for 25th June as well as the next Cabinet set to be on 9th June. 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 do 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.