

**District Councillor Report: Debenham Ward – January 2025**  
**Serving Ashfield-cum-Thorpe, Aspall, Bedingfield, Debenham, Kenton & Winston**  
 Cllr Teresa Davis [teresa.davis@midsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:teresa.davis@midsuffolk.gov.uk) Tel: 07928 512588

<p><b>Community Information:</b></p>	<p>Further to my report for Dec/Jan. The government has also offered the option for Councils undergoing reorganisation to further <b>delay local elections</b> i.e. the County Council election currently planned for May 2026. There is a County Council vote on this on January 12<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>The Government are now proposing <b>new mandatory housing targets</b> for each local authority area. It is now highly likely that there will need to be a process to revisit the current housing numbers for each town / village in the district. Further information to follow soon.</p> <p><b>Pride in Place Grant</b>, which was first launched last year, is open for town councils, parish councils and local voluntary, community, faith and social enterprises (VCFSE) organisations to apply for.</p> <p>Grants of between £250 and £5,000 may be applied for, allowing for more significant projects to take place across the district.</p> <p>Eligible projects include, but are not limited to, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planting</li> <li>• The development of local history, heritage culture</li> <li>• The purchasing of village signs</li> <li>• The purchasing of seating and benches for community spaces</li> <li>• Maintenance or enhancement of open public spaces</li> <li>• The purchase of equipment to enable the maintenance of open public spaces, including community litter picks</li> </ul> <p>The grant window will remain open for applications until the annual £50,000 budget is fully allocated across the district.</p> <p><b>New Jobs in the Area</b>, there are quite a few new jobs being created in the Stowmarket area.</p> <p>Bauder LTD, which makes sustainable roofing, is building a warehouse on Stowmarket's Gateway 14 business development, creating 20 jobs.</p> <p>Assan Panel, which makes building materials, is opening a £45m plant, also at the Gateway 14 site, and will be looking to fill 100 "highly-skilled" jobs.</p> <p>Retailer The Range has already announced it is looking for 1,000 employees for its warehousing operation, also based at Gateway 14 on the outskirts of the town.</p> <p>In 2025 sessions were held for over 1700 children and staff at primary schools in Mid Suffolk to provide education about what happens to our <b>waste</b>. <b>Debenham Green Team</b> will be holding their hard to recycle stall as normal on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each month, the 7<sup>th</sup> March will also have the theme and be able to answer any questions on the upcoming <b>waste collection changes</b> happening in June this year, with officers from Mid Suffolk attending.</p>
<p><b>More to come Drop In/Cabinet and Council Dates:</b></p>	<p><b><u>Mid Suffolk in January</u></b></p> <p>Reminder that my drop in surgeries will be on <b>12<sup>th</sup> Jan</b> from 9:00am-11:00am at The Coffee House on the High Street and at the Debenham Leisure Centre from 9am-11:00am on Monday <b>19<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>. The next full council meeting will be on <b>22<sup>nd</sup> Jan</b>. Do let me know if you have a question or concern you want to put to the council or cabinet.</p> <p>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 <a href="http://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk">www.midsuffolk.gov.uk</a>.</p>

