

District Councillor Report: Walsham Le Willows Parish Council

June 2024

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| Supplementary Planning Documents | <p>Following the adoption of the Joint Local Plan Part 1, MSDC has prepared three draft Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) relating to Biodiversity and Trees; Housing; and Intensive Livestock and Poultry for consultation. The closing date is Wednesday 19th June 2024</p> <p>https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/supplementary-planning-documents-consultation</p> |
| Call for sites | <p>As part of the Joint Local Plan Part 2 MSDC has invited residential site submissions for future development. MSDC is not inviting comments at this stage and potential site allocations and revisions to settlement boundaries will form part of later stages in the plan-making process in early 2025.</p> <p>To see the initial submissions go to:</p> <p>https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/en/call-for-sites</p> |
| Capital Grants | <p>Community groups can apply for capital grants to cover the cost of a project up to a maximum of £10,000. Funding is available to help make improvements and repairs to social infrastructure, including anything from village halls and communal spaces to play areas and sports facilities.</p> <p>In the 2023/24 financial year, a total of £239,510 was distributed across the districts to dozens of successful capital grant applicants. This included solar panel installation at Rickinghall Village Hall, Suffolk Prickles Hedgehog Rescue in Stonham, external insulation and cladding at Norton Pre School, the purchase of a new storage container for Stowmarket Carnival, and a kitchen refurbishment for Buxhall Village Hall.</p> |
| Food Waste | <p>Funding has been agreed, as part of a nationwide requirement by central government to enable the introduction of food waste collections from 2026.</p> <p>The agreed funding means the council can now begin the process of sourcing new bins, lorries, and equipment, as well as recruiting additional bin crews.</p> |
| Skills and Innovation Centre | <p>Freeport East have signed of £16.66million of funding for the state-of-the-art centre at Gateway 14 on the edge of Stowmarket which will provide skills and training for the district and will be a hub for innovative companies.</p> |
| Stowmarket Rangers | <p>Stowmarket Town Council are hiring Rangers who will help around the town with tasks like litter picking, additional cleaning and improving the local environment. This is based on similar schemes which have been very successful elsewhere. Mid Suffolk will provide a one-off grant of £50,000 to</p> |

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| | cover the cost of new vehicles, including one with pressure washing equipment. |
| Support for energy efficiency in leisure centres | Mid Suffolk District Council has been awarded £180,000 from Sport England to help ease financial pressures and reduce the carbon footprint of the Mid Suffolk Leisure Centre swimming pool. |

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