



Mid Suffolk District Council

Report for The Stonhams Ward – September 2016

Dementia Friendly Film Screenings come to Stowmarket

Dementia-Friendly screenings are coming to the Regal Theatre in Stowmarket this autumn – with more venues to follow across the county.

The Regal screenings of Dad's Army, Mamma Mia and Singing' in the Rain, supported by the Stowmarket Dementia Action Alliance (DAA), will take place in a relaxed atmosphere that welcomes all viewers with dementia and their family, friends and carers.

Three films will be showing this autumn:

- **Wednesday 7 September:** Dad's Army
- **Wednesday 5 October:** Mamma Mia
- **Wednesday 2 November:** Sing along version of Singin' in the Rain

All showings start at 11.30am at The Regal, Ipswich Street, Stowmarket IP14 1AY. Tickets cost £5.95 per person and include tea and coffee. You can buy tickets in person at The Regal Box Office, online at www.regalstowmarket.co.uk or by calling 01449 621 825.

A 3 for 2 ticket offer, allowing attendees to view all three screenings for the price of two, is also available. Carers go free with a CAE card (carers must accompany those that need assistance). Community Transport is available through Connecting Communities by calling 01449 614271

There will be a free dementia awareness event at The Mix, opposite The Regal, directly after the 7 September screening of Dad's Army with information about dementia friendly activities happening locally and a light lunch. This event will begin at approximately 1.30pm and is open to anyone, not just those who attended the earlier screening.

The screenings are funded by Suffolk Community Foundation through Suffolk Cinema Network and supported by Stowmarket DAA, Stowmarket Town Council, The Regal and Mid-Suffolk District Council.

Cllr Julie Flatman, Mid Suffolk District Council Portfolio Holder for Community Capacity Building and Engagement, said "Visiting the cinema is a normal part of life for many of us, but it can be difficult for people with dementia to do so in the same way. For that reason it is excellent news that the Regal are giving those living with dementia and their carers the opportunity to attend these screenings and take part in an activity so many of us take for granted.

"This is an example of a dementia friendly community in action, and I hope it encourages others in Stowmarket and across the district to think about how we can make our towns and villages more dementia friendly in everyday life."

More relaxed/dementia-friendly film screenings are taking place in other areas of the county this autumn, such as those at Hadleigh Pool and Leisure with Hadleigh Dementia Action Alliance (March of the Penguins on Tuesday 13th September and Breakfast at Tiffany's on Tuesday 11th October) and screenings at The Bank in Eye and The Quay in Sudbury (details coming soon). Please check the website: www.suffolkinemanetwork.org for these event listings and further details.



Council buys Middle School site for Redevelopment

Mid Suffolk District Council has bought the redundant Middle School and community buildings in School Street, Needham Market, from Suffolk County Council and will now be looking at plans to redevelop the site.

The Middle School closed in July 2015, following the outcome of the Schools Organisation Review which standardised schooling across Suffolk from 3 to 2 tier.

The purchase of this site also includes community buildings which are home to a library run by Suffolk Libraries and an internet café run by members of the local community. Mid Suffolk will now work closely with these groups on continuing to provide much valued local facilities.

Proposals for a housing scheme are being drawn up and these will be subject to a public consultation through the usual planning processes.

Cllr Nick Gowrley, Leader of Mid Suffolk District Council and Portfolio Holder for Assets and Investment said, "Earlier this year we unveiled our Joint Strategic Plan in which we outlined our vision for investing in our communities by bringing redundant sites back into use - and the acquisition of the Middle School and land is an important first step as we start to see that vision taking shape. Work on redeveloping this area will now gather momentum over the coming months as we press ahead with plans for the provision of new homes and community facilities and we look forward to sharing these early next year and working with key stakeholders to bring these to fruition."

Cllr Richard Smith, Suffolk County Council's Cabinet Member for Finance and Property said: "This is great news and my thanks to all the officers involved. Part of our aspirations for the site were to provide a new library and facilities for the community as well as provision of new homes. Mid Suffolk were able to provide a whole site solution delivering these aims. The playing fields have been retained by Suffolk County Council for community use. I look forward to hearing about the development of Mid Suffolk District Council's plans for this fantastic site."



Business Glass Collection Service Takes Off

Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' new kerbside Business Glass Collection Service has begun collecting glass from businesses across the districts.

From June this year, the councils have offered businesses a service that collects waste glass for recycling rather than allowing it to join general waste that is disposed of at the Energy-from-Waste plant at Great Blakenham. New specialist collection vehicles are operating across the districts, offering the service to any business that presently disposes of a large amount of glass with its general waste.



The new service advertised on a specialist glass collection vehicle

Dedicated two-wheel bins, with 240 litre capacity, are provided to businesses to make the kerbside collection as easy and efficient as possible. This specialist service ensures that more glass is recycled and that more businesses can dispose of their waste in a green manner while keeping their costs low.

Although the service is aimed primarily at high glass use businesses in the hospitality sector, such as pubs, food serving enterprises and wedding venues, it is available to any business that disposes of large amounts of glass. The service can be purchased independently of the established Business & Trade waste collection service. Existing Business & Trade clients can add glass collection to their subscription. Businesses interested in subscribing can find details online at:

<http://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/waste-services/trade-waste/trade-waste-and-recycling/>

The service is also available for one-off events that have to dispose of a large quantity of bottles and jars.



By offering a dedicated Business Glass Collection Service the councils aim to reduce waste costs for local businesses. It will help their economic growth and profitability while also increasing recycling across the districts.

Cllr David Burn, Mid Suffolk District Council's Portfolio Holder for Environment, said: "Glass recycling is important but we understand that some businesses don't have easy access to suitable facilities. This new service provides businesses with the opportunity of ensuring their glass is disposed of responsibly and at the same time enables them to play an important part in helping to protect the environment."

This new service is a service available only to businesses. Residents can dispose of household glass at any of the Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC) or bottle banks across the districts. Find your nearest HWRC on the Recycle Now website:

www.recyclenow.com/local-recycling



Councils Appoint Temporary Head of Paid Service

Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils have this week approved the appointment of Deborah Cadman, Chief Executive of Suffolk County Council, as temporary Head of Paid Service pending the appointment of a new permanent Joint Chief Executive.

Deborah will take up this post on 4th August and it is anticipated she will spend around one day a week with Babergh and Mid Suffolk. There will be no additional personal remuneration paid to her, but Suffolk County Council will receive payment from us for any reasonable expenses incurred while she is in the role.

This arrangement is expected to span six months, but is dependent on the appointment process for a permanent Joint Chief Executive following the departure of Charlie Adan.

In a joint statement Cllr Jennie Jenkins, Leader of Babergh District Council and Nick Gowrley, Leader of Mid Suffolk District Council said, "We are fortunate that Deborah Cadman has agreed to provide us with additional support during this transition period. She will be working closely with our recently appointed Deputy Chief Executive Lindsay Barker and the wider leadership team. This arrangement reflects the excellent reputation we have for collaborative working in Suffolk and as the Devolution process develops this agreement provides both a practical and also cost effective solution for our two councils until we can appoint Charlie's permanent successor."

Speaking about her temporary appointment, Deborah Cadman said: "I am very pleased to agree arrangements to work with the leadership team at Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils and respective Leaders; Cllr Jennie Jenkins and Cllr Nick Gowrley to ensure that both authorities continue to deliver local services to residents. This temporary agreement is a clear demonstration that different levels of local government in Suffolk can work together to compliment the resources and experience available. With the full support of Suffolk County Council's Corporate Management Team, I am confident that this arrangement will not detract from the leadership capacity of any organisation."



Local Development Order for Stowmarket FEZ out for Consultation

A Local Development Order covering the Stowmarket Food Enterprise Zone is out for comment after being adopted for consultation by Mid Suffolk's Planning Referrals Committee.

Members of the public will have 28 days to comment on the draft Local Development Order (LDO), the first of its kind to be proposed in the district. Once the consultation is closed the responses will be considered and the Committee will decide whether or not to formally adopt the LDO, the design of which has been funded by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA).

If adopted, the LDO will allow businesses within the Stowmarket Food Enterprise Zone (FEZ) to erect commercial 'B class' buildings without returning to the Committee for additional planning permission.

'B class' buildings are commercial buildings that house offices, factories or warehouses. Any buildings built under the LDO will still have to comply with the criteria set out in the LDO itself, including restrictions on eave height and materials and design. The full criteria can be found at the web address below.

Any of these new buildings would be required to be built within a strict and pre-defined area of the FEZ, but could take place without going through the full planning process for each one.

Members of the public can have their say online [here](#).

This is the first LDO to have been adopted for consultation by Mid Suffolk District Council, and comes one week after Babergh District Council opened consultation on their first LDO.

LDOs are made by local planning authorities and give a grant of planning permission to specific types of development within a defined area. The streamlined planning process they allow creates certainty and saves time and money for those involved, without permitting unrestricted development or removing a planning authority's oversight. LDOs cannot provide planning permission to alter any aspect of a listed building.

Stowmarket FEZ is also an Enterprise Zone site within the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership's [Space to Innovate initiative](#). Businesses that move to this site will benefit from Business Rate relief as well as the LDO. Enterprise Zones are part of a national government scheme to support business growth.

Gerard Brewster, Mid Suffolk District Council Portfolio Holder for Business Growth and Increased Productivity said: "The Stowmarket Food Enterprise Zone is giving our food and drink businesses, whether they work in production, packing, logistics or marketing, the chance to improve their business and offer better quality service to their customers without the full costs of applying for formal planning permission on every change they make.

"Because this Local Development Order allows businesses to construct specific buildings without referring each one to Planning Committee, the limits we place on this LDO are very important. This consultation period is an opportunity for everyone in Stowmarket to tell us whether we've got the balance right."