



Mid Suffolk District Council

Report for The Stonhams Ward – October 2018

October 2018

£156k allocated for infrastructure spending in Mid Suffolk

Funds collected via the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) on new developments have been allocated to six bids in Mid Suffolk, totalling £156k. These bids, in Stowmarket, Botesdale, Laxfield and Stowupland include bus stop improvements in Stowmarket and Laxfield, enhancements to Stowupland Village Hall and Sports and Social Club.

These funds were collected from property developers under CIL to invest in infrastructure projects that benefit communities in Mid Suffolk. Allocation of CIL funds take place twice a year: to find out more read our [press release](#).

£2.6k fine after guilty pleas at Limes Hotel

J & R Hospitality Ltd have been fined over £2.6k after pleading guilty to six food safety offences following two inspections of their facilities at the Limes Hotel, Needham Market, one on 22 November last year and a second on 23 May 2018. These offences include an absence of a food safety management system, placing unfit food on the market and poor maintenance of an unclean premises.

The fines were levied by Ipswich Magistrates Court on Tuesday 18 September following a prosecution by Mid Suffolk District Council. For more details read our full [press release](#).

Western Suffolk Community Safety Partnership reaffirm County Lines priority

The Western Suffolk Community Safety Partnership, of which Mid Suffolk District Council is a member, has reaffirmed its focus on tackling what are known as county lines – the drug supply activities in Suffolk run from places such as London. Dealing with these could also reduce violence against men and women in Suffolk, curb hate crimes and protect those at risk of radicalisation or extremism.

The Western Suffolk Community Safety Partnership (WSCSP) is made up of statutory representatives from Babergh District Council, Mid Suffolk District Council, Forest



Heath District Council, St Edmundsbury District Council, Suffolk Police, Suffolk County Council, Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service, West Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and Ipswich and East CCG, National Probation Service, Norfolk and Suffolk Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) and the Elected Members from all four Districts and Suffolk County Council (SCC).

At a meeting of Babergh and Mid Suffolk's Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 20 September, the committee received a report of the community safety activity undertaken by the partnership, which is available [online](#).

Mid Suffolk acquire former Aldi building in Stowmarket

Mid Suffolk have acquired the building, formerly occupied by food store chain Aldi, including its car park on Gipping Way. The acquisition forms part of the Stowmarket Vision for Prosperity – a wider five-year action plan, which aims to revitalise the town centre with the aim of attracting more businesses and visitors.

The council will now be administering the parking on the site, which was previously unmanaged and had seen some vehicles trapped by double parking. For more information see our [press release](#).

Lullaby Concerts returning to Stowmarket

The popular Lullaby Concerts, performed by the City of London Sinfonia and facilitated by Orchestras Live, will be returning to Stowmarket this month. The concert, titled The Musical Puzzle, is intended for children ages 2-7 years, as well as their parents and carers, and has been warmly welcomed in the town in past years.

Two Concerts are planned for Friday 26 October in the United Reform Church, Stowmarket. The young audience will be at the heart of a musical puzzle in an exploration of shapes, puzzles and orchestral music. For ticket information contact Stuart Bruce, Partnership Manager – Orchestras Live, on 07831 272123 or stuart@orchestraslive.org.uk. For more details, see our [press release](#).

Business Rates Funds Earmarked for Local Schemes

Funds retained by the council under the Business Rates Retention Pilot have now been earmarked for use in key schemes. The funds, totalling £980k, have been divided between six key projects, including £300k for the development of Needham



Lake Café/Visitor Centre and £240k for the Town Centre redevelopment of Stowmarket.

The decision was taken by Cabinet at their meeting on 8 October, and is available as a result of Suffolk being one of 10 areas across the country to take part in the 2018/19 pilot scheme allowing 100% of business rates growth to be retained by local authorities for use in their districts. You can find the full report considered by Cabinet [online](#).

Strategic Property and Land Investment Fund approved

Mid Suffolk's Cabinet has allocated £3m to the Strategic Land and Property Fund, intended to allow the council to act swiftly and efficiently when opportunities to acquire key properties in the district arises. The decision, made at the Cabinet Meeting on 8 October, will make funds available to secure properties that represent outstanding opportunities for the council and community before they are purchased by private bidders. You can find the full report considered by Cabinet [online](#).

Stars of Babergh and Mid Suffolk

Nominations have closed for the Stars of Babergh and Mid Suffolk: after an excellent response, the judges gathered on Wednesday 3 October to begin going through the nominations. The shortlist has now been drawn up ahead of the awards ceremony on Thursday 18 October at St Mary's Church in Hadleigh. You can follow the awards live on our social media channels on the evening or check our website afterwards for the results.