

To Chairman and Councillors – Holbrook Parish Council  
From Councillor Mary McLaren – Stour Ward  
Parish Council Meeting 17 June 2024

### **Babergh District Council**

On 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024 Babergh District Council met for its Annual General Meeting. Cllr Elizabeth Malvisi was elected as Chairman of the Council for one year and Cllr Ruth Hendry as Vice-Chair.

Cllr Deborah Saw was elected as the new leader of Babergh District Council with a pledge to tackle housing issues, empower communities and address climate change. Her strap line: - "We need to rethink, rebuild and repair"

She will lead the Green, Independent and Liberal Democrat coalition administration for the next year – replacing Cllr John Ward who had been acting leader from last summer instead of Cllr Dave Busby who has been having cancer treatment.

I was elected to Chair the Babergh Overview & Scrutiny Committee and Joint Chair of the Joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee for the forthcoming year. As part of that responsibility, I am required to attend Cabinet Meetings.

### **The council's commercial property arm continues to outperform the market**

Babergh & Mid Suffolk's commercial property company CIFCO continues to generate money to be ploughed back into the district's finances. Reports which were presented to the O&S Committee in May are due for presentation to the Council in July 2024 (delayed due to the general election) demonstrated more than £1.26m in net income was raised last year. The portfolio now comprises of 22 properties with 83 tenants based mainly in the eastern region.

CIFCO is also investing in reducing the environmental impact of its portfolio with 50% of its properties now holding an EPC rating of C or above and is on track to meet its target of ensuring all properties have a C rating or above by 2027.

### **Current CIL Programme**

Town and Parish Councils across ~Babergh and Mid Suffolk are set to receive more than £1.2m in developer contributions to help community infrastructure keep pace with housing growth. Out of the £1.2m funding, 20 of Babergh town and parish councils will be receiving a portion of £677k.

Further information about how CIL works can be found on the council's website Community Infrastructure Levy.

### **Food Waste Collections for Babergh Residents from 2026**

Funding to begin food waste collections in Babergh and Mid Suffolk from 2026 has been agreed as part of the nationwide requirement of central government.

In May, Babergh Cabinet agreed funding to enable the introduction of food waste collections in 2026. It follows a change in UK government legislation aimed at making recycling consistent across the country.

This is a statutory requirement for all councils. The agreed funding means that councils can begin the process of sourcing new bins, lorries and equipment as well as recruiting additional bin crews. Babergh is set to receive just over £1m in new burdens funding with an anticipated shortfall of £254k.

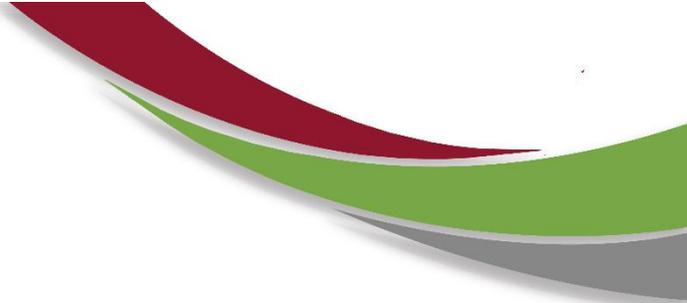
Once ready to roll out residents will receive a new 23-litre food waste bin as well as a 5-litre caddy for the kitchen. Flats and houses of multi-occupancy will receive larger communal bins.

Both councils are working with neighbouring borough councils together with Suffolk County Council as part of the Suffolk Waste Partnership. Glass kerb side collection is also under consideration.



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**Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils**  
Endeavour House, 8 Russell Road, Ipswich IP1 2BX  
Telephone: (0300) 1234 000  
[www.babergh.gov.uk](http://www.babergh.gov.uk) [www.midsuffolk.gov.uk](http://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk)



### **“Feeling Good Suffolk”**

The above is a service supporting residents to make healthier choices and has helped over 2,000 people to improve their health since its launch in 2023.

Feel Good Suffolk gives our residents more flexibility when accessing services to improve their health and wellbeing. If you are looking for support and advice on a range of issues including weight loss, help to quit smoking and how to be more active Feel-Good Suffolk is there to help.

This partnership brings together Suffolk County Councils, all Suffolks district and borough councils, NHS Suffolk, Suffolk North East Essex ICB and Norfolk and Waveney ICB

Follow the Feel-Good Suffolk website or Facebook and Instagram.

### **Funding for Swimming Pools**

Hadleigh Pool and Leisure Centre received £103,000 to install important equipment over coming months to reduce their carbon footprint. Swimming pools are particularly dependent on energy use, maintaining ambient temperature and heating pool water to the right temperature, so soaring energy bills and inflation have put leisure providers under increasing financial pressure. The above grant is going towards pool covers and the replacement of fluorescent lighting with LED lighting.

### **Capital Grants Window**

This has already opened, and Councillors were sent a separate email encouraging applications.

### **The General Election has been announced for 4 July 2024**

**The Purdah Period observed by the Council commenced on the 2 June until the end of the Election. BDC Council meeting, Cabinet Meeting, Overview and Scrutiny and Joint Audit and Standards and other committee meetings have been cancelled.**

### **Important dates**

Tuesday 18 June - Deadline by 11.59pm to register to vote if you have not done so.

Wednesday 19 June – Deadline by 5pm for new applications for Postal Votes.

Friday 21 June – First batch of postal votes will be issued. All Postal Vote applications before 12.00pm on Friday 31 May will be included in this issue.

Wednesday 26 June - Postal votes second batch issued. All Postal Vote applications received and determined between 12.01pm on Friday 31 May and 5pm on Wednesday 19 June will be included in this issue.

Wednesday 26 June - Deadline by 5pm to apply to vote by proxy.

Wednesday 26 June - Deadline by 5pm to Apply for a Voter Authority Certificate. You need to apply if you vote at the polling station and do not have one of the accepted forms of Photo ID.

Friday 28 June - First day issuing replacement lost and spoilt postal votes.

**Thursday 4 July Polling Day** Polling stations open from 7am to 10pm

Thursday 4 July last chance to replace lost or spoilt postal votes – Deadline 5pm

Thursday 4 July Last chance to apply for an emergency proxy vote - Deadline 5pm



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## How to vote

To vote you must be registered.

If you have recently turned 18 or moved house you may not be registered. You can register online.

If you would like to vote in person at the Polling Station, you will need a valid Photo ID.

If you are unable to attend the polling station you can apply to vote by post. You are also allowed to apply for a proxy vote.

## For further information Contact

Email: - [elections@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:elections@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk)

Telephone 0300 1234000 (option 7)

You can also visit our Contact us webpage for other ways to get in touch.

Mary McLaren

[Mary.McLaren@babergh.gov.uk](mailto:Mary.McLaren@babergh.gov.uk)

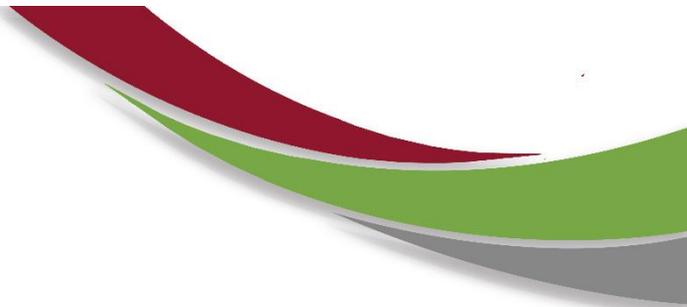
2 June 2024



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