

To Chairman and Councillors Holbrook Parish Council  
From Councillor Mary McLaren – Stour Ward  
Monthly Council Report.  
19 January 2026

### **Council Leaders back “Suffolk to the power of three” option as part of the LGR consultation.**

The Government statutory consultation closes on the 11 January 2026. More information can be found on the Three Councils for Suffolk website including the benefits of our case for businesses, residents, town and parish councils and for the voluntary & community sectors. To be impartial to other options the site also links to the ONE Suffolk website to ensure awareness of both cases.

### **Suffolk residents urged to apply quickly for free house energy upgrades.**

Suffolk residents living in properties that are not energy efficient could be eligible for funding to make their homes warmer and reduce their energy bills thanks to Warm Air Suffolk. Access the Warm Air Suffolk website.

### **Upcoming Grant Deadlines**

The application window for the Community Development Fund will close on the 18<sup>th</sup> January 2026. Up to £10,000 can be applied to help deliver capital, revenue or pre-project activities. All information can be found on the BDC Community Funding Page.

### **Starting 2026 with fully funded training to strengthen local organisations.**

Community Action Suffolk is offering four fully funded training courses designed to strengthen the capacity of local organisations and help them build strength for the future.

BDC have supported this training by making use of the Share Prosperity Fund. Find all the training seminars on the Community Action Suffolk website:-

- Introduction to safeguarding
- Understanding the Trustee role and responsibilities
- Essentials for launching a charity
- Volunteer Leading

### **Suffolk Climate Emergency Plan Progress Review**

Sustainable Suffolk has shared the Suffolk Climate Emergency Plan Progress overview giving an insight into the work done since the plan was published in 2021.  
Visit the Sustainable Suffolk website to find out more.



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## Babergh District Council Community Governance Review

Babergh District Council commenced a Community Governance Review of its parishes, towns and un-parished areas across the District in October 2025. In May Town and Parish Councils had been contacted to consider any changes in their community governance arrangements with initial requests to be submitted between 23 October and 7 November 2025.

The CGR working group met in November to discuss the requests. Consultations began on Monday 8 December and will continue until Friday 23 January 2026.

Residents, businesses, political representatives and other stakeholders of these areas under review are invited to send their comments by 23 January.

On-line: click to complete our survey on Microsoft Forms

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

### Anglian Water's Thriving Community Fund

Anglian Water has established a thriving community fund to support projects that improve the water environment and bring real social benefits to local communities.

Grants of £10,000 to £100,000 can be made with a two stage application process for grants over £50,000.

Access the Anglian Water Website.

Mary McLaren

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6 January 2026



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