

To Chairman and Parish Councillors Holbrook Parish Council
From Councillor Mary McLaren - Stour Ward
Monthly Councillor Report
15 June 2026

Better Recycling

After a great deal of hard work on the part of the Waste Collection Team our new waste collection system commenced on the 1 June 2026. I have spoken with different groups of people across Stour Ward to ensure that everyone has received their bins and the instructions accompanying the bins. For people experiencing difficulties (bins not delivered, limited space in confined areas (Terraced Houses) or even if the bins delivered are too big for your needs, please contact the following

Telephone: - 0300 1234 000 (option 4)

Email:- recycling@babberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk

Access online: -www.babergh.gov.uk

or contact me on Mary.McLaren@babbergh.gov.uk

The accompanying calendars with your bins for 6 months are very helpful but are very specific to your collection area.

Please remember **to put your house number on each bin**. Five in total if you have a brown bin. Many supermarkets rose to the occasion and were doing a good trade in fluorescent number sales.

Creating Three New Councils for Suffolk

The *Future Suffolk Website* is live. From April 2028 unitary councils will replace the county council, district and borough councils in Suffolk.

The new site explains

- Local Government re-organisation,
- Timelines
- New Council Boundaries
- Details about the May 2027 Shadow Authority Elections
- Number of Councillors for each authority.

Please get involved with your comments at

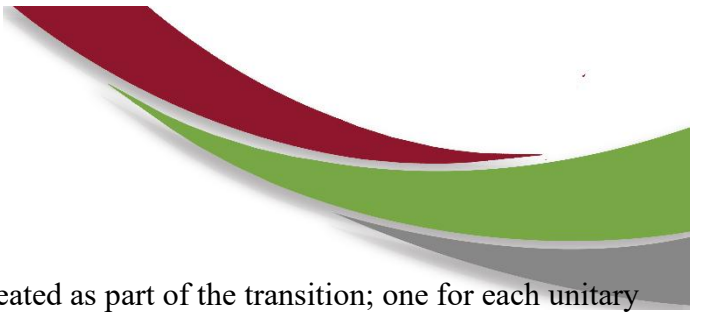
www.suffolklgrhub.gov.uk

Shotley Peninsula will be part of Ipswich and South Suffolk Council.

- 66 Councillors
- 50 Wards
- The 16 largest wards will be served by 2 councillors.

Following the first elections to the new Councils in May 2027, the Local Government Boundary Commission for England will review councillor numbers and wards before any subsequent elections. This will involve public consultation and means there will be scope for changes.

Meanwhile an **LGR Implementation Board** has been set up for all Suffolk councils to jointly lead the change through to vesting day on 1 April 2028. Babergh Mid Suffolk District Council's CEO Arthur Charvonia is a member of that Board and well known to Shotley Parish Councils Alliance Group. A programme management office has been set up to support the Implementation Board. It is being led on an interim basis by the Director of Corporate Services and LGR.



Joint Committees

Three joint committees of existing councillors will be created as part of the transition; one for each unitary council area.

They will help prepare for the new councils alongside the Implementation Board. Each Joint Committee will also have a deputy senior responsible officer to support and advise it. The joint committees will then hand over to the new unitary councillors elected in May 2027

Outgoing BDC Chairman raises £4,125

Councillor Elizabeth Malvisi was able to present a cheque for the above amount to her nominated Domestic Abuse Charity - Compassion as a result of the funds raised during her recent tenure.

The incoming Chair of Babergh District Council is Councillor Lee Parker who has chosen Sudbury Defibrillators as his chosen charity for this coming municipal year.

Babergh District Council welcomes back a new leader of the Council

As Babergh District Council has a Rainbow Cabinet (Independent/Green/Liberal Democrat) the leadership of Council is shared between Councillor John Ward and Councillor Deborah Saw on alternate years. Councillor Saw was voted in as Council Leader for the current municipal year. She has spelled out the need for targeted action to support residents and communities amid serious funding challenges during the Local Government Re-organisation. With only 23 months left it is important that our legacy benefits not only our successor authorities but our residents and staff. Funding remains a serious challenge with Babergh District Council facing a £7.7m budget gap over the next three years.

Cash Boost for Babergh Communities

In the latest round of funding from the CIL pot (Construction Infrastructure Levy) 19 of Babergh's Towns and Parishes will be receiving a portion of £127k. Neighbourhood CIL funding is so important to local communities and gives a much-needed boost to fund vital projects.

Babergh and Mid Suffolk Councils help bring careers to life thanks to a college link up.

The councils used £100,000 of UK Shared Prosperity Funding to help the group purchase of a simulator van, offering young people in the area the chance to get hands-on experience of a variety of different jobs in construction.

Since buying the van six months ago, West Suffolk College (Part of the Eastern Education Group) has kitted it out with top of the range equipment and is now ready to tour local schools.

Students who get to use the van will be able to obtain advice on the Construction Industry, virtually drive an excavator, bulldozer or tipper truck and find out about the journey of an atom via a VR headset.

Not only is this to inspire young people but it is also hoped that it will make them more aware of major infrastructure projects such as Sizewell C.

Mary McLaren

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2 June 2026

