

## District Councillor Report – Palgrave Parish Council – October 2024

Survey of residents	The deadline for the Mid Suffolk Council informal survey has been extended to 31 <sup>st</sup> October. This is an informal survey so <i>any</i> ideas are welcomed, speak with your district councillor or visit the website here <a href="https://baberghandmidsuffolk.govocal.com/en-GB/projects/tell-us-mid-suffolk">https://baberghandmidsuffolk.govocal.com/en-GB/projects/tell-us-mid-suffolk</a>
Thurston By-election	Harry Richardson (Conservative) was elected as the new ward co-councillor for the Thurston Ward on 24 <sup>th</sup> September.
Simpler Recycling	MSDC have agreed how it will adapt its waste collection service in response to new government rules on Simpler Recycling. From 2026 there will be weekly kerbside food waste collections. Each household will receive a food waste bin for collection as well as a caddy to use in the kitchen. This will reduce the volume of waste in the black bin. From April 2026 we will move to twin-stream recycling so each household will have 2 recycling bins (one for card and paper, the other for plastic, glass and cartons) collected on alternate weeks, and a black bin collected every three weeks. Garden waste will continue to be collected on alternate weeks.
Heart of Suffolk Big Weekend	A fantastic response of over 14,000 entries were made to the ballot for Heart of Suffolk Big Weekend prizes. Lucky winners have been notified and will experience (for free) the many culture, leisure and visitor attractions across our two districts. Businesses will benefit from increased footfall from customers who may not usually access their offers.
Respond Enforce And Clean Team (REACT)	This week Cabinet approved £360K spend to enhance Public Realm services across Mid Suffolk. The team will be a responsive and demand led service focusing on street cleaning, maintenance and environmental work across our market town, village and very rural areas. This will include rapid response to fly tipping incidents which currently interrupt routine scheduled waste collections. Specialist kit will enable removal of graffiti, mechanical sweeping, litter picking and waste removal. Where specific issues are identified, officers will be equipped to provide education and, where necessary enforcement to address illegal activity. The REACT service will launch in the New Year.
Mid Term Activities for Children	Running from Monday 28 October to Friday 1 November, Mid Suffolk with key delivery partners are providing a range of free activities for children including Swimming, Playworld sessions, Family Cooking, Adventure Days Football Camp, Woodland Activity Days, Halloween Disco and more.  Full details are available on the Council's website <a href="http://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/w/holiday-activities-and-food-programme#timetable-of-activities">www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/w/holiday-activities-and-food-programme#timetable-of-activities</a>
Innovation Awards	The finalists have been announced in this year's Innovation Awards. Among the many Mid Suffolk businesses shortlisted is - our very own - Natural Building Systems Ltd based at the Forge Business Centre in Palgrave. They are competing against two other finalists for the Sustainability Innovation Award.

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