

District Councillor Report – Palgrave Parish Council September 2025

Local Government Review	<p>The Council has released draft proposals on its proposed 3-unitary model which include division of the county into “Western”, “Central & Eastern”, and “Ipswich and Southern”. As neither Mid Suffolk nor Babergh comfortably fit into this model, the proposal would see the two present council footprints divided between the 3 proposed councils. A full website on the 3-unitary model, including the proposed map effecting these changes, is available here: Welcome – Three Councils For Suffolk.</p> <p>A public session about LGR was last week in Stowmarket and (today) in Eye.</p>
Mid Suffolk and Babergh hosted Tour of Britain Men’s Cycle race	<p>The UK’s largest international professional cycle race visited Mid Suffolk on 3rd September. The second stage of the Mens’ Lloyds Tour of Britain started and finished in Stowmarket, as well as visiting other parts of the district, including Debenham and Eye. Information relating to the economic benefit of hosting the event will be available in due course. The race organisers were impressed with the efficiency with which MSDC executed its functions given the exceptionally short notice provided, compared with other host authorities for other stages of the Tour.</p>
Introduction of small electrical recycling banks	<p>12 new electrical recycling banks (6 in Mid Suffolk, and 6 in Babergh) have been installed across the two districts. This is part of a new scheme funded by ‘Material Focus’ to help reduce e-waste across the district. More information about where these banks are can be found on MSDC’s website Twelve new electrical recycling bins for Babergh and Mid Suffolk - Mid Suffolk District Council - babergh.gov.uk / midsuffolk.gov.uk The nearest location to Palgrave is Buckshorn Lane Car Park, Eye.</p>
Temporary Emergency Housing	<p>Mid Suffolk Cabinet agreed to invest in 30 new properties in the district to be used for temporary emergency accommodation. To be eligible to be accommodated someone must be legally homeless, meet all necessary immigration and residence conditions and have a priority need for housing. This investment will reduce the Council’s reliance on use of B&B accommodation, and will save revenue in the long term.</p>
Land east of The Lows	<p>MSDC has completed work to make safe dead and diseased trees and clear a path through a portion of the land. The Council has also entered into an agreement with the River Waveney Trust to manage the land in accordance with an agreed plan. An RWT Community Engagement Officer will be working with residents and other interested parties to form a volunteer working group to mirror that working successfully at Frenze Beck in Diss.</p>
Kerrison Land Acquisition	<p>MSDC has acquired 62 acres of mixed meadow, pasture, riparian and woodland on the former Kerrison site in Thorndon to protect and improve its biodiversity value, undertake work on natural flood alleviation and enhance public access.</p>

Cllr Tim Weller
Ward Member Palgrave
Cabinet Member Environment, Culture & Wellbeing