

NOTES FOR PARISH COUNCILS

1/ Political

There have been some changes in the Executive Council for Conservatives due to resignations, and a new Chairman Liz Malvisi was appointed. James Cartlidge was confirmed by a majority of the executive committee to be readopted as the MP for South Suffolk, obviously until the election in a couple of years, and Liz will be standing for election next year in her area.

2/ Housing

There have been some interesting development in Bildeston with regard to housing. I am led to understand that the field near Artiss Close has changed ownership however not confirmed to me. The green field site has permission for 48 house to be built and this will last for the normal period ie at least 3 years. The Brownfield site on the corner of Bildeston known as Taylors Garage and fields behind has had a presentation for consideration to build 42 houses with an ingenious pool to control the flooding in the fields. This has yet to be submitted to the planning committee at Babergh.

The two new houses in Hitcham on the site of the original garage there are nearly completed or completed, visual only. I understood there was some paperwork issues for completion but presumably they have all been solved.

3/ Planning for Houses

A new Town and Country Permission in Principle (PIP) came in to force on 1st June 2018. This applies to developments where the main purpose is housing but some non-residential development may also be proposed. The effect of this on sites on Brownfields is still to be considered but new applications can be submitted on all types of land under PIP unless exempted by the regulations. Currently this at present does not affect sites in Babergh and Mid Suffolk.

4/ Broadband

On 24 August 2018 it was confirmed that 98% superfast broadband coverage will be achieved in 2020 for Suffolk. I have observed that a lot of road works are happening in this area and I understand this is to install fibre optics cable in the roads. I understand that the final installation in to individual house will come later presumably if you want it and I would guess there will be a cost element.

5/ AONB

The new National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) contains revisions which state the following.

Great weight should be given to conserving and enhancing landscape and scenic beauty in National Parks, the Broads and areas of AONB. The scale and extent of development within these designated areas should be limited. Planning permission should be refused for major development.

6/ Boundary review

The publication of the final recommendations was in August 2018 and the final stages subject to parliamentary approval will be in May 2019. This area will be called North West Cosford and will include :- Wattisham, Bildeston, Hitcham, Kettlebaston, Preston St Mary, Thorpe Morieux, and Brettenham. It will have one District Councillor with 2,279 electors forecasted for (2023)

Cllr Michael Creffield