

## **Councillor's Report for Bildeston Parish Council**

**11<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

### **Report from Babergh District Councillor, Deborah Saw**

#### **Possible Site for 75 houses on Wattisham Road**

Following correspondence from Councillor Banks regarding a possible allocation for the above site I approached Planning Policy who have confirmed that all allocations and specific sites that were in the original JLP, that was rejected by the Government Inspectors, are not automatically going to be included in the next version. The Council has begun work on a new Part Two of the Plan which will contain an up-to-date spatial hierarchy and a distribution of housing allocations. Planning Policy is evidence-gathering currently and say it is too early to say whether the Wattisham Road site will be included and if it was it would be subject to consultation and examination.

I have checked and the Ayeen Consulting Report is on file as well as representations from the Suffolk Preservation Society asking for the allocation to be deleted from the Plan because of the traffic issue and probable damage to a historic high street.

#### **Paddocks Way Issue**

The Housing Officer for Paddocks Way has discovered that the grassed area in front of the bungalows is not included in residents' tenancy agreements. As a consequence of this all residents were written to on 24<sup>th</sup> August and advised that the frontage is a communal area and must be clear of individual property. Tenants were given 28 days to remove fences etc , (21st September). After 28 days any property will be removed, stored for 28 days and after that if it is not claimed it will be destroyed.

#### **Newberry Farmhouse**

I was contacted by the owners following the latest damage to their porch by a passing truck. I contacted Babergh's Heritage Lead and asked him to intercede with SCC Highways. He was extremely sympathetic, and he totally supported an intervention to protect the building. He would support a reprofiling of the road surface which could be done when Anglian Water replaces the main but is exploring the idea of temporary bollards. Babergh has contacted Suffolk Highways and a site visit is being arranged with Heritage and Highways, The owners have asked if I would attend and of course I will.

#### **BNatural**

I put BNatural forward for a Locality Award and it was successful. It was only £300 but it all helps. However, Babergh was successful in securing funding from the Rural England Prosperity Fund and there is an element in that to support culture and creativity with festivals a target . Grants of between £5,000 - £10,000 are available per application, but you must be able to match any funding that you are applying for with your own funds. All payments are made at the end of the process, so you will need to be able to fund the project fully by yourself before any reimbursements are made. This is a capital only grant.

<https://www.babergh.gov.uk/business/economic-development/grants-and-loans/shared-prosperity-fund/rural-england-prosperity-fund/>

## **Capital Grants**

You can now apply again for a capital grant for the sports pavilion and the bowling club, t. The window for applications opened on 31<sup>st</sup> July and closed on 1<sup>st</sup> October. We could also explore CIL funding which would allow you to bid for larger amounts.

## **The National Lottery Community Fund**

This is a £75 million fund administered by the National Lottery for the Government. This funding is for organisations that “support people and communities in England under severe pressure because of the increased cost of living.”

You can apply for between £10,000 and £75,000. If you need £10,000 or less you could try the [National Lottery Awards for All fund](#).

A n organisation can apply if it is running a foodbank or a warm space

<https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/community-organisations-cost-of-living-fund>