

District Cllr Report Battisford and Ringshall Ward

Barking, Battisford, Great Bricett, Offton, Ringshall, Willisham

November 2023

Storm Babet and Ciarán

Mid Suffolk District Council has been working to help residents in affected homes and businesses. Householders are being urged to report flood damage via Suffolk County Council's reporting tool. The Government has announced some financial support and we are awaiting further information on how this will be distributed. Affected businesses should also contact Mid Suffolk to register for support. Please visit www.midsuffolk.gov.uk for full details.

Solar and Low Carbon Energy Position Statement

MSDC's position statement on Low Carbon Energy was agreed at Mid Suffolks Council meeting on October 26th. In the absence of Government policy, the Council cannot make planning policy regarding renewable energy such as solar farms or solar PV on roof-tops. We can only provide a statement of intent in terms of how we wish to see developments proceed. This statement is an interim stage prior to the adoption of supplementary planning guidance in the New Year.

Your Community, Your Say!

The consultation to get residents' feedback on the planned priorities for the District is open until 15th November. We are hoping to engage with as wide a section of the district as possible, including some groups which seldom get involved, on topics ranging from housing to promoting active citizenship. The survey can be accessed online: <https://babergbandmidsuffolk.citizenlab.co/en-GB/projects/setting-the-future-direction-of-your-councils>

Sustainable Transport

At the same meeting it was agreed to form a working group to review sustainable integrated transport in the district – particularly for walking and cycling. It is hoped to review this in relation to commencing schemes in villages in the district.

Cosy Homes Initiative

Eligible households will be able to apply for energy efficiency measures in their own homes, including homes that are privately rented. Applications will be open from 15th November 2023. Full details to be available soon. Households that are particularly vulnerable can continue to access help via the wider Suffolk scheme www.warmhomessuffolk.org

Council Housing Repairs

The new Administration at Mid Suffolk is focussing on the backlog of housing repairs that are needed. This backlog will be dealt with via a separate contractor allowing the in-house team to concentrate on day-to-day repairs.

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