

# **District Cllr Report Battisford and Ringshall Ward**

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

**July 2022**

### **Historical proclamations take place in Mid Suffolk district**

Mid Suffolk District Council expressed sadness at the death of Her Majesty the Queen. On Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, the reign of King Charles III has been proclaimed at historic events across Suffolk, including Eye, Needham Market, Stowmarket, Hadleigh and Sudbury.

### **Tree Canopy Survey**

As part of the biodiversity action plan, MSDC has been working with specialists to identify and map existing tree cover and habitat networks across the district. We are the first rural councils to commission such a survey. Tree canopy cover in Battisford and Ringshall ward sits at 8.3% within a range of 6% in Stow Thorney ward and 12.8% in the Claydon and Barham ward. It is hoped that this survey will enable the council to apply for funding to increase a new tree planting strategy, and the report and findings should be published in due course.

### **Cost of Living crisis**

Support packages to combat the cost of living, energy bills and council tax are all available through Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils, with residents urged to check they are receiving the support they are entitled to.

### **Waste**

Suffolk Waste partnership is backing a national campaign about the safe disposal of batteries. If batteries are put into general waste, they can start fires within the waste freighter or in landfill. West Suffolk and Babergh Mid Suffolk have received £60k of funding from chewing gum manufacturers to help clean the streets and pavements of used gum.

### **Solar Together Suffolk**

Solar Together Suffolk, a group-buying scheme, has helped over 1,500 homes in Suffolk to install solar panels and batteries and opens for new registrations on 22 August 2022. The scheme helps homeowners to purchase a high-quality solar installation from pre-approved installers. This will increase their independence from the grid and reducing their bills and carbon emissions. Registration closes on September 26. More information can be found on the website: <https://solartogether.co.uk/suffolk/home>

### **Locality Funding**

I would welcome applications from any local club or organisation in need of funding towards the cost of a local project.

**Dr Daniel Pratt**

**Mid Suffolk District Councillor**

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