

## **APPENDIX**

**Reports given to meeting of Occold Parish Council held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2013**

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## **1. County Councillor's Report**

### **Highways Department Wins Award**

Last month Suffolk County Council's Highways department won an award for Environmental Sustainability,

Awarded to a highway authority or partnership that is able to demonstrate consideration of environmental issues within a project.

The project improved sustainability in the highway environment such as: carbon footprint reduction; local environmental benefits; sustainable material use; reduction of Co2 plus involve community liaison and consultation. Awarded to the Council's part night lighting streetlight programme.

Installation of the Intelligent Lighting System to 65000 street lights and implementation of part night lighting is a massive programme involving numerous parish and town councils streetlight network. The confidence raised during this roll out has lead to a number of Villages reviewing their entire street light infrastructure, with some parishes installing LED streetlights, funding their installation from energy savings.

## **St Edmund**

Some might consider the naming of our Council chamber at Endeavour house Ipswich as a trivial matter, but last week's full council meeting agreed to name our chamber the King Edmund of East Anglia room. The signs are being donated, and this chamber will now formally recognize the unique part this local Saint played in British History.

## **Council Opposes A14 Toll**

The last full council meeting confirmed the County Councils rejection of the proposal to toll a, to be built section of the A14 in Cambridgeshire. The County Council argued that it was unfair to local businesses for hauliers and freight companies to have to pay this toll to bring forward this work to a European trunk route. I also pointed out that concrete sections of the A14 near Haughley are deemed to have worn out 10 years ago according to Highways Agency reports.

## **Car Buyers Urged to 'check it not regret it'**

Used car dealerships are under the spotlight as part of a joint campaign launched during National Consumer Week by Suffolk Trading Standards and the Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB).

Throughout November, officers will conduct a county-wide crackdown, performing spot checks on second-hand car dealers in partnership with VOSA. Officers will be checking the safety of vehicles on sale and ensuring their descriptions are factually correct.

Nationally, the Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline receives around 6,000 complaints each month relating to used car dealerships, and locally, 14% of all calls to Trading Standards are associated with purchasing second-hand cars.

The two organisations have teamed up to help people avoid buying an unreliable car when using a second-hand dealership. The campaign is urging people buying a used car to 'check it not regret it' by assessing whether the car is safe and legal.

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## **2. District Councillor's Report**

### **1. Accommodation**

Contrary to a report which appeared last month in the EADT, Mid Suffolk and Babergh currently have no intention of leaving their respective headquarters for the county's old headquarters, Endeavour House in Ipswich. In fact, we have simply agreed to commission an independent review to determine whether either of our main office buildings could be shared with other agencies, or if the sites could be developed or sold.

In May 2012, both councils resolved that in the medium term (3 – 5 years) both HQs would be retained, which would provide flexibility and avoid taking on replacement or alternative accommodation until clarity on the shape of the new integrated structure and the number of staff required, was known. It would also ensure a retained identity for both councils.

The review should provide the opportunity to ensure that ICT is used to enable staff and Members to work more effectively, whether that is from the office, on site or in the wider workplace. The review must also address public access needs.

The current office buildings cost the councils around £1.1million a year to run. Following the integration of services during the past two years and subsequent reduction in staff, large areas of the offices have been left empty and unused. Moreover, the larger than expected cut in government grants has forced us to take a serious look at our accommodation needs.

## 2. Finance

Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils have been successful in securing £166,900 from the Government's Transformation Challenge Award. This money will be invested further in ways of working that are more outcome-focussed and which contribute to the wide-ranging investigations currently under way within each of the Transformation Enquiry Groups.

## 3. Progress Power, Eye Airfield

Public consultation on the proposal to develop a gas-fired power station on the Eye Airfield Industrial Estate is underway and closes on 7<sup>th</sup> November. A number of exhibitions are being held in and around Eye. I attended one myself which was well explained and illustrated. As previously reported the final decision will be made by the Secretary of State. Mid Suffolk and SCC will be key consultees along with local parish councils and other local and national organisations. It is expected that a decision by the Secretary of State will be made in June 2015.

## 4. IT

Suffolk County Council and Mid Suffolk and Babergh District Councils will operate a joint ICT service from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2014, which will be managed and operated by SCC. SCC will manage the following service elements in the joint service:

- Physical network
- Active directory/exchange solution
- Desktop applications
- Telephony Infrastructure
- Desktop estate
- Application delivery
- Helpdesk and support

Applications that SCC do not operate will be managed and supported by BDC & MSDC using their own hardware which will be hosted in SCC's data centres. Detailed planning meetings are being initiated to work out the best approach to integrate BDC & MSDC ICT systems with SCC's systems.

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### **3. Community Police Officer's Report**

#### **Reported Crimes.**

There have been no reported crimes in the Parish of Occold since our last report.

**IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION OR ARE SUSPICIOUS ABOUT ANYTHING REPORT IT ON 101 and IF YOU THINK A CRIME IS BEING COMMITTED ALWAYS DIAL 999.**

### **GENERAL**

The latest statistics show overall crime down by more than 5% compared to last year.

### **Ongoing Crime Prevention Advice.**

Take pictures of valuable items and record their identification numbers or register them on the National database "Immobilise." If you have valuable mobile equipment consider having tracking device fitted.

### **Police Direct.**

Police Direct is the way to find out what is going on in your neighbourhood. You can get the latest information about crime and policing in your area by, text, email or telephone by registering free at [www.suffolk.police.uk](http://www.suffolk.police.uk) or telephone 01473 613997.

### **TWITTER**

You can follow us @midsuffpolice.

### **HOW ARE WE DOING**

#### **Priorities**

- Along with our partners, we are committed to reducing crime and anti-social behaviour across the county. Together we have developed Minimum Standards of service for victims and witnesses of anti-social behaviour, ensuring a high level of service is provided across the county.

#### **The current Priorities for Mid Suffolk Central are:-**

- To identify antisocial parking in Debenham and to enforce existing restrictions
- To work with Thorndon school on parking to improve road safety

### **Have Your Say**

**The Community Priority Setting Meeting** is now open to the public and is where our priorities for the following month will be set, please come along and raise any issues. The next meeting will be on **06 January 2014**, at Creeting St Mary Village Hall, All Saints Road, Creeting St Mary. ,IP6 8NF

The Meeting starts at 7.00pm and finishes at 8pm. All members of the Parish Council as well as the public are invited to attend when they can bring any issues/concerns to the meetings attention.

Please contact us to find out when later meetings are, alternatively the information is on our website.

**IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION OR ARE SUSPICIOUS ABOUT ANYTHING REPORT IT ON 101 and IF YOU THINK A CRIME IS BEING COMMITTED ALWAYS DIAL 999.**

### **Quality of service**

If you would like to tell us your views on the service that you have received from us or just to say how nice it is to see a Police Officer in your village, please let us know. We appreciate all feedback & comments from residents within our SNT area.

**Contact us**

**Tel:** 101 & ask to speak to the Mid Suffolk Central Team

**E-mail:** [midsuffcentral.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk](mailto:midsuffcentral.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk)

**Website:** [www.onesuffolk.co.uk/safersuffolk/midsuffolkcentral](http://www.onesuffolk.co.uk/safersuffolk/midsuffolkcentral) - please visit our website which is

Kind regards

PC 873 Clare Wayman and PCSO 3192 Steve Johnson.

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