

Mid Suffolk District Councillor Michael Burke

Report to Eye Town Council December 20th 2017

Organisation

Babergh and Mid Suffolk Councils

Last night I attended a meeting of Babergh District Council. A three part motion was put to the council as follows :-

- 1) that the council would not put in any monies re the merger in next years budget, and that no staff time be allocated to the merger without full Council approval
- 2) Guarantee of a referendum on merger
- 3) That the leader should resign

However, before the motion was heard, Cllr. Jennie Jenkins resigned as Leader of BDC with immediate effect.

Cllr. Jan Osborne will be acting Leader until the next full Council at BDC which is likely to be an extraordinary Full Council meeting on 4th January, when a new leader of the Council will be elected.

As a result of Jennie Jenkins resignation, the third part of the motion was in effect removed, and the other two parts of the motion were passed. The ramifications of this for MSDC are not clear at this stage. I think it's a question of watch this space

Policing in Eye and Surrounds

Councillor McGregor and I held a meeting with the Police and Crime Commissioner Tim Passmore. We passed on the information in relation to the monies provided by Eye and surrounds that I described at the last meeting and expressed our concerns that we felt Eye and district did not get its fair share of the police budget.

Commissioner reinforced fact that the police will come in specifically if there is a problem affecting the town

Unlike Norfolk Suffolk are keeping their PCSOS.

PCC still hoping to obtain some £3.5 million which he believes is underfunding for Suffolk. If obtained we would expect to perhaps have a PC for Eye.

Also raised issue of grant funding for CCTV and possible use of Eye Police Station for recording /monitoring equipment

Locality Awards

The following organisations have been granted locality awards from Mid Suffolk District Council through District Councillor for Eye, Michael Burke

Eye Arts Club	£500
Eye Cricket Club	£500
Eye Playing Fields Association	£500
Eye Opportunity Group	£500
Debenham Girls Group	£500
Hartismere League of Friends (Eye Directory)	£600
Eye Goes Green	£400
1st Eye Scouts	£500
Town Moor	£500
Eye Works for You	£500
Eye District Girl Guiding	£500
Eye Town Council (CCTV) Proposed	£500
Rural Coffee Van	£250
Total	£6250

The voluntary organisations in and around Eye do a tremendous job for our community and our thanks go out to all volunteers across the many sectors that are involved. Unfortunately the budget for locality awards is limited and we have therefore tried to spread the grant as fairly as possible across the many groups that have applied for locality awards.

PADDOCK HOUSE

As outlined at the November meeting Councillor Gould and I had a meeting with the Chief Executive of MSDC, Arthur Charvonja and other officers. This was followed by a meeting with other councillors where Paddock House was discussed amongst other things including neighbourhood and local plans and the situation overall re MSDC and Eye Town Council.

As previously outlined now that those meetings have taken place, a public consultation meeting will take place in February. Date and location to be finalised

In the meantime we tried to have the fence moved back from church Street without success as Health and Safety law apparently requires the whole site to be secured.

We are still looking to have “ netting “put up which could be printed with artwork of the Town done by the school/schools. As the fence is likely to be in situ for at least a couple of years this could provide a softening of the rather harsh fence

Other Matters