

**District Councillor Report: Debenham Ward – April 2025**  
**Serving Ashfield-cum-Thorpe, Aspall, Bedingfield, Debenham, Kenton & Winston**  
**Cllr Teresa Davis** [teresa.davis@midsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:teresa.davis@midsuffolk.gov.uk) Tel: 07928 512588

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| <p><b>Community Information:</b></p>             | <p>Firstly I wanted to say <b>thank you</b> for everyone that turned out for the <b>Litter Pick</b> on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March, apparently there were over 40 people. A great start to spring and well done Mrs Walton for doing such a well organised and caring event each time. I hope I can take part in the October one (there wont be any GCSEs to worry about then).</p> <p><b>Local Government Restructure, Reform and Devolution Update</b></p> <p>The Government Consultation is <b>still open until 13<sup>th</sup> April</b>, although you cannot say you don't want devolution you can let them know what kind of things you want to see improved from devolution and how this new tier of government (Mayoral Authority) will work with the Unitary Councils. I would encourage everyone to go online and complete their view on this if they can <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/norfolk-and-suffolk-devolution">https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/norfolk-and-suffolk-devolution</a></p> <p>The interim plans for Unitary councils have been sent back to Government in time for <b>21<sup>st</sup> March 2025</b>. The government will review returns from all councils, including the County, District and Borough Councils to determine a way forward for Unitary Councils in Norfolk and Suffolk.</p> <p>A full proposal will then be worked out and agreed and sent to Government by <b>26<sup>th</sup> September 2025</b>.</p> <p><b>Meanwhile in Mid Suffolk</b></p> <p>Lots of initiatives will be <b>coming out this spring and summer</b> following the £80m budget and capital ambition programme Mid Suffolk agreed in February.</p> <p>We want to ensure residents of Mid Suffolk see long term improvements to:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Sports</b> – this should be coming out in May</li> <li>2. <b>Local Business</b> - especially our Food and Drink, Farm to Fork sector, again for May</li> <li>3. <b>Community</b> facilities, like local community buildings, service centres</li> <li>4. <b>Local Walking and Cycling</b> – more upgrades to paths now we have our designers</li> <li>5. <b>Green resilient spaces</b> which help with flooding and draught.</li> </ol> <p>Once grants come out you can find them all on one page online at :-<br/> <a href="https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/community-funding">https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/community-funding</a></p> <p>If you have a community group, please do get in touch. My Locality Grant is also now available for this financial year. We are here to help.</p> <p>For local Business, we have our own dedicated <b>Heart of Suffolk</b> website for anything business.</p> <p>Our <b>Debenham Green Team</b> now have themes for their regular recycling stall on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each month. Over the next two months the themes will be:-</p> <p><b>5<sup>th</sup> April</b> will be showcasing <b>Cycling</b>, with information on the changes to the Highway Code, a Bike Clinic and the ability to test an E-bike</p> <p><b>3<sup>rd</sup> May</b> is all about <b>Hedgehogs</b> in the run up to Hedgehog Awareness Week</p> <p>If anyone wants to get involved in Biodiversity, let them know.</p> |
| <p><b>Drop In/Cabinet and Council Dates:</b></p> | <p><b>Mid Suffolk in February</b></p> <p>My drop in surgery will be on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April at Debenham Leisure Centre. The next full council meeting will be on 10<sup>th</sup> April to review the Devolution plans set out by Government and confirm a response to the consultation.</p> <p>My contact details are above, please do use them and you can also keep up to date by signing up/linking to our social media, just go to <a href="http://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk">www.midsuffolk.gov.uk</a>.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

