

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

Community Information:	It was great to see so many people out watching the British Tour cycling event in Sept, especially the children and I felt we were very lucky with the weather. This month I wanted to talk about community as I know in my ward we have many groups and volunteers that work tirelessly and help provide what I would describe as a loved and cared for community and whilst helping and making a difference is reward enough I just wanted to say a heartfelt thank you. Whilst there is little that can be done without volunteers I can confirm that we do have our Living Well in Winter Grant launching again this year this grant is aimed at tackling social isolation during the colder months by supporting local organisations to deliver accessible, inclusive spaces and affordable activities that help people stay connected throughout winter. Funding is available for initiatives that promote social connections, physical and mental wellbeing, and access to welcoming community hub. Eligible projects have been and some continue to be lunch clubs, after-school clubs, low-cost family sports sessions, craft workshops, community cafes, or any other initiative that brings people together and supports residents through the colder months. Up to £2,000 can be applied for and applications must be submitted by Sunday 19 October. We do have other grants available for both community and business, so do have a look at our grants page if you have time, the website is https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/community-funding As people will be well aware, it will be 2yrs since Storm Babet. I do know that things are progressing in the background, we have had another update in the summer, the Environment Agency are nearly at the end of a very comprehensive modelling to show us what we can do to improve things along the river Deben and our working with home owners to make improvements to help with flooding, meanwhile we have local groups and the Essex and Suffolk Rivers Trust working with local landowners to help alleviate flooding and our own Debenham Green Team are working with an established organisation to see what specifically can be done for Debenham and surrounding villages, which ultimately we hope the Environment Agency will listen to. I know that some of you will feel that nothing has changed and unfortunately big changes take time, especially when you have to take into account everyone that lives along the river. I am hoping that our Flood Lead, Suffolk County Council, will let us know what strategic plan they have but in the meantime please be reassured that local groups, landowners, myself and the other organisations are working away at this issue for you, we won't let it drop.
Drop In/Cabinet and Council Dates:	<u>Mid Suffolk in October</u> My drop in surgeries will be Debenham Leisure Centre on Monday 6th Oct from 9:30am-11:00am & The Coffee House on the High Street from 9am-10:30am on Monday 13th Oct. The next full council meeting will be on 23rd Oct and the Cabinet meeting will be on 7th Oct. You can view them live. Do let me know if you have a question or concern you want to put to the council or cabinet. 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 www.midsuffolk.gov.uk.