

**Report for Bures St Mary Parish Council July 2024**

- A new cabinet was appointed: please see separate attachment.
- Everything, apart from some Planning Matters, was deferred until after the General Election. The June Full Council Meeting was cancelled; as were Committee Meetings & many appointments, owing to pre-election 'purdah', including the Parking Charges issue that was returned to Cabinet after Call-in & Overview & Scrutiny
- At yesterday evening's Cabinet Meeting a Draft Social Policy and an Annual Value Statement were approved; also approved were a Development of Funding and Grants Processes, including a Timetable and a Response to the Statutory Consultation to the Norwich to Tilbury Overhead Line Project. For all details see the following link: [16 Jul 2024 6.00 pm](#) – (Agenda, Draft Minutes)
- The next Full Council Meeting is 23<sup>rd</sup> July. Main items on the Agenda include the Annual Report from the Overview & Scrutiny Committee, the Capital Investment (CICFO Capital Ltd) Business Trading and Performance Report; the Babergh State of the District Report and a Solar & Low Carbon Energy Position Statement; and a Report on the Process for the Adoption of a Local Listed Building Consent Order for Works to Windows and a Local Development Order for Solar PVs on Outbuildings. For further details, see the following link: [23 Jul 2024 5.30 pm](#) –(Agenda)
- I 'attended' a Planning Training session on Teams this morning on Biodiversity Net Gain: this was quite a dense, but interesting, presentation by an Ecologist from Essex County Council who supports and advises Babergh & Mid Suffolk District Councils. We are going to be sent a recording and slides from the presentation, and I could share these with any parish councils that are interested
- The granting of the Sunnica Solar Farm on the Suffolk-Cambridgeshire border comes as a blow to rural communities everywhere and gives a taste of things to come with the new Government's Housebuilding & Planning Bill
- Last week I attended a meeting of the National Landscapes Combined Joint Advisory Committee: the Agenda included an update on current projects; endorsement of new Guidelines for Members; strengthened duties for Planning Authorities; finance & funding. Presentations included the Recreational Disturbance Avoidance & Mitigation Strategy (RAMS) and on new Funding Strategy from the Heritage Lottery Fund
- EN/21/0008: Non-compliance with conditions following revisions to plots 5 & 6 Apple Tree Mews, Cuckoo Hill, Bures St Mary. Babergh Planning Enforcement has issued a Notice to Prosecute to the developers and is proceeding with Prosecution
- There has been concern across the Ward about weeds on footpaths: I have been in touch with the Head of Public Realm, who assured me that they are fully aware of this problem right across the District and are in the process of working out a schedule to deal with the matter.