

Babergh District Council

January 2024

Bures St Mary and Nayland Ward

Report to Parishes – Bures St Mary, Nayland with Wissington, Stoke by Nayland

Council Meeting of 19th December

The Meeting of Full Council which was scheduled for 19th December was cancelled. The next Meeting is on Tuesday 23rd January, when the main items on the Agenda are the Half Year Report on Treasury Management 2023-24; the 'refreshed' Corporate Plan and to note the Report on the Electoral Boundary Changes & Polling Stations: the Boundary Change means that the South Suffolk Parliamentary Constituency falls entirely within Babergh District.

[Councillors to consider tax premiums for second homes and empty properties](#)

Councillors at Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils are considering higher tax premiums for owners of second homes and long-term empty properties, following the introduction of new government rules.

[Parking back on the agenda for Babergh as it seeks to balance books](#)

A significant budget gap for 2024/25 has forced parking back on the agenda for Babergh District Council. Options for the implementation of new parking tariffs are to be discussed with affected town and parish councils, following cabinet agreement at a meeting on 9th January. This is an extremely controversial proposal. Since a petition against the it has so far collected several thousand signatures, it will have to be debated in Full Council.

['Building in Babergh? Be a good neighbour'](#)

Babergh District Council expects developers and commercial builders to follow the 'gold standard' of working practices to protect nearby residents from construction site disruption.

MORE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE VIA BRIGHT BLUE LINKS ABOVE AND THE BDC WEBSITE www.babergh.gov.uk

[Boxted Bridge](#)

At a recent site meeting including Members of Essex County Council as well as Ward and Parish Councillors from both sides of the River, I requested that a temporary footbridge be installed over Botted Bridge so that pedestrians and cyclists can use this much safer road route than the current diversion alternatives. Essex County Council agreed to investigate the possibility of installing such a bridge.

[The AONB is now a National Landscape!](#)

Just a reminder that AONBs are now referred to as **National Landscapes** in all literature and publicity. The next Joint Advisory Committee Meeting is scheduled for 7th March and a Planning Conference is to be held on 19th March. The Conference will cover:

- i) The strengthened Duty on relevant authorities to conserve and enhance National Landscapes,
- ii) Lighting in the Dedham Vale and Suffolk & Essex Coast & Heaths National Landscapes
- iii) Biodiversity Net Gain and
- iv) Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects

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