

Nedging with Naughton
Annual Parish Meeting 2026
Parish Council Report

Local Government Changes

The Government Decision that Suffolk and Norfolk local government is to be administered by an elected Mayor with existing district and county councils replaced by unitary authorities resulted in strong competition between the then existing Suffolk County Council and the District Councils.

The County Council wanted a single unitary council for Suffolk while the District Councils, supported by most Parish Councils wanted three councils to ensure local knowledge would be more safely preserved. Our Parish will be in the Western Unitary Council area, which extends to Bury St Edmunds. The other areas are Central, which includes Hadleigh and Ipswich, with third area Eastern. The timing for Mayoral elections and the establishment of the new Unitary Councils has yet to be decided. The Parish currently remains under Babergh District Council.

The recent election for Suffolk County Councillors was delayed by The Council for more than a year but ordered to take place by Parliament this May. It will be absolved after the Unitary Elections are completed.

Enforced Local Development

The concern that the Parish would be compelled by Government to have development that unacceptably alters our villages is still real and a Neighbourhood Plan would still be valuable to safeguard our homes and amenities. Babergh, which still remains our District Council, have recently indicated that new funding may be available and this would allow work on a plan to proceed.

Parish development 2025 to 2026

There have been few Planning Applications in the year and construction work has been very limited. There have been no applications for new homes.

One house is being constructed, the self-build Ivy House in Nedging Road. Extensions have been made to two units in the Crowcroft Industrial Estate.

An extension is being built to Redhouse Barn and a Greenhouse attached to Ladys Cottage. New barns are to be built at Hill Farm and Bush Farm. A Garage is being built at Crossways in Crowcroft Road.

Community Infrastructure Levy

The absence of new development in the Parish results in no new Construction Investment Levy being received by the Parish in the year. In the past year CIL funding has only been used to pay for the upgrading of the road speed detectors at the Parish boundaries. This includes installation of solar panels. There is now less than £2000 held in the Parish CIL Fund and there are no current plans for expenditure.

Development Sites in the Parish

Babergh Council conducted a Call for Sites available for development in January. They have published, for information, only the sites offered. They have stated that assessment has yet to be made. Results will not be announced until later this year, published through the Strategic Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (SHELAA). There will be consultation opportunities for Parishes and individuals when draft Local Plans are released for comment.

Pedestrian Safety in Ipswich Road.

It has been suggested that a Pedestrian crossing should be provided in Ipswich Road by the entrance to Crowcroft Road. There are many people crossing to and from Crowcroft Road and Nedging Road throughout the day. Peak times are early morning and evening by school children and walkers. Other users cross from Crowcroft Road to access the Village hall and Playground.

The problem is affected by the volume of traffic crossing or entering from the Crowcroft Road Industrial Estate, Wattisham Airfield Gate 2 and residential housing. Siting a crossing is difficult because of the offset position of the Nedging and Crowcroft roads. An alternative solution could be a 20 mph traffic speed limit, which also benefit pedestrians in the Ipswich Road where there are no footpaths.