

District Council Report

November 2024

Aldham to Hadleigh Road

The main route between Aldham and Hadleigh has finally been re-opened following an extensive repair that has taken a year to complete. The road collapsed last year following storm Babet and has caused significant difficulties to villages in the area.

Community Energy Revolution

Residents were recently invited to join the council at Sudbury Arts Centre on 30 October for an event facilitated by Community Energy South.

The meeting provided an opportunity for communities to find out how they can generate clean energy, cut bills, and help the planet. With the council able to gauge interest in setting up a new local community energy scheme for the area.

Attendees were able to:

- hear from existing successful community energy groups in Suffolk, including Heating Bildeston.
- ask questions and get free advice from community energy experts.
- understand more about the development of community led renewable energy projects.
- and find out more about how they can get involved.

Councils call for action over council housing budget black hole.

Following a report backed by more than 100 Councils across the country highlighting the national council housing crisis, Babergh and Mid Suffolk's green leaders have signed a joint statement urging the Government to help turn things round.

The statement urged the government to invest in urgently needed new council homes, addressing the unsustainable debt previously allocated to councils and creating a Green and Decent Homes Programme.

Corks Lane properties up for sale

The first eleven homes have been completed on the Corks Lane council offices site, with at least one apartment already sold. The site is up for sale following a sympathetic conversion of the buildings to preserve and enhance the original structures, ensuring the character and features are retained.

The development will eventually see the original buildings transformed into forty-nine new high-quality homes, a mix of one, two, three and four-bedroom apartments and one cottage, which are ideally located close to shops, schools, and the town's amenities.

Kingfisher Leisure centre Pool re-opens

Following closure of the pool in August for repair of the glass roof, further investigations revealed other additional problems that require more complex repair.

The Council is now examining a number of long-term options for the entire glass section of roof, which has around 170 bespoke panels. Interim work is now set to be completed, ready for the pool to reopen on 11 December. This work has allowed the glass roof to be sealed, and an additional platform is being installed just beneath it so that the pool is safe to re-open.

All other facilities at Kingfisher, including the gym, have remained open as usual.