

# District Cllr Report Battsiford and Ringshall Ward

Barking, Battsiford, Great Bricett, Offton, Ringshall, Willisham

January 2022

## Waste collections

Due to the numerous bank holidays over the Christmas and New Year period, waste and recycling bin collection days will not resume to their normal days until 24th January. Brown bin collection will return to normal from 10th January.

## Christmas tree recycling

During January, you can leave your real Christmas tree, with all decorations removed, beside your brown bin on collection day. Trees will be collected from Barking on 27<sup>th</sup> January, at the grass rear of the village hall, and from Ringshall village hall car park on the week commencing 10<sup>th</sup> January, and again on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> January.

## Free bus/taxi travel for vaccinations

There is a Suffolk wide scheme for people who need to travel to get a COVID vaccination to get free transport either by bus or taxi. Details can be found here <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/covid-19-vaccinations-in-suffolk/>

## Solar car port

Works to install 70 solar carports at Mid Suffolk Leisure Centre in Stowmarket have now begun. The scheme forms part of a £2.8m investment in solar at the council's leisure centres; with £1.4m in funding for the solar carports pilot, and a further £1.4m in funding to install solar panels and other energy saving measures on the leisure centre buildings.

## Locality Funding Awards

There is still funding from the annual locality awards. Amounts of £250 or more are available to local community groups and organisations. Please encourage groups in the village to contact us for an application form or telephone for further information and help in applying.

## Copdock A14/A12 Interchange

Babergh and Mid Suffolk have sent a joint response to National Highways' consultation on improvements to the Copdock Interchange. Both councils are supporting the idea of a new link road connecting southbound traffic from the east (Felixstowe) towards London on A12 to bypass the roundabout. This is despite the fact the proposal will cause a great amount of environmental damage around Belstead brook and will be less of an improvement for traffic heading from A12 toward Bury on A14.

## New Council homes in Needham Market

Part of the housing development on the former MSDC Council Office site in Needham Market has been completed. 8 new affordable homes were ready for families to move in at the beginning of December. This development of housing is being built by MSDC in partnership with Norse Group.

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