

**PAUL CLOVER/MARGARET MAYBURY DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT (including Annual)
FOR LAVENHAM PARISH MEETING 18th APRIL 2024.**

Monthly:

Babergh Cabinet proposal to introduce car park charges in the town centres of Lavenham, Sudbury and Hadleigh update

At the cabinet meeting on 8th April the proposal to implement car park charges was carried by a majority vote. This was without the O&S recommendation that there should be consideration given to the first hour being free. As a consequence the cabinet decision has now been called in for review by the monitoring officer and the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny on the grounds that the decision was not based on sound judgement nor on the basis of due consultation.

Annual:

In no particular order.

Lavenham Ward Tour

Meet with Mark Emms, Babergh Head of Operations, and other officers where Lavenham issues of parking problems, unsafe play equipment, disabled bays, pavement trip hazards, flooded car parks and solar panels were raised in the areas of Meadow Close, Tenterpiece, Church St car park, Spring St and Pegtile Court.

Meadow Close/Tenterpiece Housing Officer visit

We met with Babergh officers and parish councillor Morey with the aim of resolving issues around illegal parking, fly tipping, disrepair of housing stock, overgrown vegetation, access requirements and the installation of illegal boundaries. Similar traffic related problems were identified at Tenterpiece.

Meadow Close

Following sustained lobbying, we were successful in cleaning up the play area and arranging the replacement of the unsafe slide unit.

We have arranged for a wayleave to be granted for the installation of a new transformer in order that overhead powerlines can be placed underground.

Church Street car park

Alongside arranging for the drains to be cleared in order to alleviate the flooding problem we met with Babergh public realm officers to discuss the problem of fly tipping and possible re-siting of the recycling bins in order to allow better use of space and functionality.

The installation of further EV charging bays was discussed with officers on the basis of need, efficiency and effectiveness and lack of notification.

Social Housing safety checks

At one point where safety checks fell behind schedule, Lavenham residents were monitored to ensure they were being protected.

On street parking enforcement

A visit by Babergh officer, Ian Rafferty to a parish council meeting was arranged in order to explain which parking offences fell under which authorities responsibility and to answers councillor's questions.

Green Willows

Meeting with residents and parish Chair to discuss potential footpath sites.
Meeting with residents and PC Chair and Clerk to arrange survey aimed at identifying pedestrian usage of footpath towards town centre.

Solar Panels

Consulting on solar panels in consideration of new Govt. legislation.

Locality Budget

This was allocated towards the purchase of a new coffee machine.

Harwood Place

Meeting with residents to discuss best use of open spaces for various recreational needs of local children.