

**News and information from Jane Gould, Babergh District Councillor.  
To the Parish Councils and residents in Orwell Ward  
September 2020**

**Suffolk's resilience partners urge people to queue responsibly outside bars and pubs:** Those looking to enjoy a drink with their friends are being urged to remember Coronavirus is still a very real threat to everyone's health.

**Babergh and Mid Suffolk receive Government funding to install solar carports:** Environmentally-friendly initiatives across Babergh and Mid Suffolk, including electricity micro-generation and solar storage carports, received a major boost last month, with government matched funding of up to £800,000.

**Shopping local could provide lasting impact on the high street:** High Streets across Babergh and Mid Suffolk could benefit from almost £19m of additional income over the next 6 months, if all adults spent an extra £5 by shopping local every week.

**Sudbury's next generation join the fight against littering:** A family litter picking scheme run by Sudbury Town Council's community wardens, supported by Babergh District Council, is set to ensure Sudbury remains one of Suffolk's cleanest towns.

**Leisure upgrade provides post-lockdown boost:** A £2.4m extension and refurbishment at Kingfisher Leisure Centre in Sudbury is making it possible for more customers to enjoy a safe return to fitness following lockdown.

**Suffolk Winners Announced for Food Savvy's Delicious Drawings Competition:** Two children from Ipswich will have their 'Delicious Drawings' on display from 17 August in their local East of England Coop stores after winning #FoodSavvy's 'Delicious Drawings' Competition.

**Homes Sweet Homes – Babergh's multi-million pound investment in social housing:** Babergh District Council has recently secured a deal for 45 new-build homes in Sudbury to help low-income house-hunters – part of a multi-million pound investment in council housing across the district.

**Business innovation to be celebrated at new awards event:** Forward thinking businesses, large and small, are being invited to enter the inaugural Innovation Awards 2020, being run by Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils.

**Littering resources for community groups and parishes:** The UK has seen an increasing trend of litter being left behind in parks and open spaces following the continued easing of lockdown. You may wish to share Keep Britain Tidy's

#LoveParks campaign resources and DEFRA's 'respecting the outdoors' campaign graphics to encourage our communities and visitors to put their litter in the bin or if full to take it home with them.

**2020 Annual Canvass text messages:** The Annual Canvass process is now well underway, with the initial letters going out earlier this month. To help streamline the process we are encouraging an electronic process. Electoral services will be trialling the free gov.uk notify service - sending text message reminders to electors that have notified us they are new to a property, but are still required to complete the registration process, to ensure that they are able to register to vote.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any issues that you think I can help with and all the very best to you all.

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