



AGENDA

COUNCIL MEETING

THURSDAY, 24TH NOVEMBER 2022 – 5.30 PM

Members of the Council are summoned to a meeting of the Mid Suffolk District Council at King Edmund Chamber, Endeavour House, 8 Russell Road, Ipswich on Thursday, 24th November, 2022 at 5.30 pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Arthur Charvonja".

Arthur Charvonja
Chief Executive



	MSDC COUNCIL
DATE:	THURSDAY, 24 NOVEMBER 2022 5.30 PM
VENUE:	KING EDMUND CHAMBER, ENDEAVOUR HOUSE, 8 RUSSELL ROAD, IPSWICH

This meeting will be broadcast live to YouTube and will be capable of repeated viewing. The entirety of the meeting will be filmed except for confidential or exempt items. If you attend the meeting in person you will be deemed to have consented to being filmed and to the possible use of the images and sound recordings for webcasting/ training purposes.

The Council, members of the public and the press may record/film/photograph or broadcast this meeting when the public and the press are not lawfully excluded.

**PART 1
MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE PRESS AND PUBLIC PRESENT**

Page(s)

- 1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 2 **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS BY COUNCILLORS**
- 3 **MC/22/26 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD
ON 27 OCTOBER 2022**
- To follow
- 4 **MC/22/27 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**
- 5 **LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**
- 6 **TO RECEIVE NOTIFICATION OF PETITIONS IN ACCORDANCE
WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULES**

9 - 10

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11, The Chief Executive will report the receipt of any petitions. There can be no debate or comment upon these matters at the Council meeting.

7 **QUESTIONS BY THE PUBLIC IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULES**

The Chairman of the Council to answer any questions from the public of which notice has been given no later than midday three clear working days before the day of the meeting in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12.

8 **QUESTIONS BY COUNCILLORS IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULES**

The Chairman of the Council, Chairs of Committees and Sub-Committees and Portfolio Holders to answer any questions on any matters in relation to which the Council has powers or duties or which affect the District of which due notice has been given in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13.

9 **COUNCILLOR APPOINTMENTS**

10 **MOTIONS ON NOTICE**

10a **TO CONSIDER THE MOTION ON NOTICE RECEIVED FROM COUNCILLOR MORLEY**

Introduction to the Model Debate Not Hate campaign motion

The Model motion is a template that councillors and councils can use to publicly demonstrate their commitment to improving the quality of public and political debate and challenging abuse and intimidation of people in public life by signing up to the LGA Debate Not Hate campaign.

Councils that have passed a motion should email debatenotehate@local.gov.uk to be added to the public list of organisations supporting the campaign. Councils who've signed up will receive more information of how councils can support the campaign and improve support for councillors in their local area. Councillors can find more information on the [Debate Not Hate campaign website](#).

Model Debate Not Hate motion:

The intimidation and abuse of councillors, in person or otherwise, undermines democracy; preventing elected members from representing the communities they serve, deterring individuals from standing for election, and undermining public life in democratic processes.

This council notes that increasing levels of toxicity in public and political discourse is having a detrimental impact of local democracy and that prevention, support and responses to abuse and intimidation of local politicians must improve to ensure councillors feel safe and able to continue representing their residents.

This council therefore commits to challenge the normalisation of abuse against councillors and uphold exemplary standards of public and political debate in all it does. The council further agrees to sign up to the LGA's Debate Not Hate campaign. The campaign aims to raise public awareness of the role of councillors in local communities, encourage healthy debate and improve the response to and support for local politicians facing abuse and intimidation.

In addition, the council resolves to:

- Write to the local Member of Parliament to ask them to support the campaign
- Write to the Government to ask them to work with the LGA to develop and implement a plan to address abuse and intimidation of politicians
- Regularly review the support available to councillors in relation to abuse and intimidation and councillor safety
- Work with the local police to ensure there is a clear and joined-up mechanism for reporting threats and other concerns about the safety of councillors and their families
- Take a zero-tolerance approach to abuse of councillors and officers

Proposer: Cllr Suzie Morley
Seconder: Cllr Andrew Mellen

10b

TO CONSIDER THE MOTION ON NOTICE RECEIVED FROM COUNCILLOR MELLEN

Residents of our district are rightly concerned about water quality and the impact of regular wastewater discharges, which can include untreated sewage, into our local rivers and the impact of this on wildlife and on human health.

As more new homes are built and the district's population rises, the release of sewage into rivers is no longer an emergency-only situation occurring as a result of severe storms, but in some locations has become a regular occurrence even in moderate rainfall. Here is a summary of combined storm overflow discharges at four sites across the district in 2021:

Treatment Site	Number of discharge events	Total discharge hours
Stonham Aspal	108	1,898
Elmswell	71	698
Badwell Ash	68	1,074
Horham	51	1,162

Source: The Rivers Trust (analysis of Anglian Water data)

Discharges of sewage can alter the delicate nutrient balance of streams and rivers, causing negative impacts on wildlife and the whole ecosystem. Wild swimmers are known to bathe at several sites in Mid-Suffolk and in streams and rivers which flow out of the district, including the Blackbourne, the Gipping and the Waveney, and discharges upstream heighten the risk of illness in river users.

Anglian Water is a statutory consultee to major planning applications, but its response relates to whether it has *network* capacity, rather than whether it has *treatment* capacity. We believe Anglian Water needs to be encouraged to consider its sewage treatment capacity in the light of rising numbers of homes and businesses in the district.

This Council therefore resolves to:

1. Ask the chair of the scrutiny committee to invite senior officers of Anglian Water plus senior representatives from the relevant internal Drainage Boards, Natural England and the Environment Agency to attend a meeting to answer questions on the current levels of untreated sewage discharges to waters in Mid Suffolk.
2. Ensure that in gathering evidence for future iterations of the local plan the council consider the cumulative impact of sewage when deciding the overall level of housing and other development. The council notes that decisions about allocations in the Joint Local Plan will be guided by an updated Water Cycle Study. This should take into account the impact of combined sewer overflow discharges on watercourses and the capacity of waste water treatment works to process anticipated new foul drainage.
3. Ask Anglian Water, from this date onwards, in its planning consultation responses for major development, to identify which treatment works will be managing the sewage and what their capacity is to treat additional volumes of effluent; whether it has the information available to assess the impact on the number or duration of sewage discharges into local rivers, and if it does have this information to share it (noting that this can only be requested not required).

4. Request that planning officers, from now onwards, include in all reports relating to major development a specific section on the impact on watercourses, including the potential for the development to result in untreated sewage outflow into watercourses (i.e. cumulative impact), or to flag if this information is not fully available, so that this information (or the lack of it) is clearly and transparently set out.

Proposer: Cllr Andrew Mellen
Secunder: Cllr Jessica Fleming

Date and Time of next meeting

Please note that the next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 26 January 2023 at 5.30 pm.

Webcasting/ Live Streaming

The Webcast of the meeting will be available to view on the Councils YouTube page:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSWf_0D13zmegAf5Qv_aZSg

For more information about this meeting, including access arrangements and facilities for people with disabilities, please contact Committee Services on: 01473 296472 or Email: Committees@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk

Introduction to Public Meetings

Babergh/Mid Suffolk District Councils are committed to Open Government. The proceedings of this meeting are open to the public, apart from any confidential or exempt items which may have to be considered in the absence of the press and public.

Domestic Arrangements:

- Toilets are situated opposite the meeting room.
- Cold water is also available outside opposite the room.
- Please switch off all mobile phones or turn them to silent.

Evacuating the building in an emergency: Information for Visitors:

If you hear the alarm:

1. Leave the building immediately via a Fire Exit and make your way to the Assembly Point (Ipswich Town Football Ground).
2. Follow the signs directing you to the Fire Exits at each end of the floor.
3. Do not enter the Atrium (Ground Floor area and walkways). If you are in the Atrium at the time of the Alarm, follow the signs to the nearest Fire Exit.
4. Use the stairs, not the lifts.
5. Do not re-enter the building until told it is safe to do so.