

**District Councillor's Report for Gislingham Ward: Mellis, Gislingham,
Thornham, Wortham & Burgate, Wickham Skeith Parish Councils**

February 2021 – appendix 2

<p>Current COVID -19 Information</p>	<p>Home But Not Alone number and underpinning services. 0800 876 6926. The phonenumber are open from 9am to 5pm, Mon to Fri. Demand on the Home But Not Alone phone number has grown but the most significant calls involve help with complex mental health issues.</p> <p>Latest news: https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/features/our-covid-19-response/</p> <p>Suffolk Advice and Support Service: Hardship Fund: For financial advice or support with access to food, call The Suffolk Advice and Support Service on 0800 068 3131.</p> <p>Covid-19 business grants now available Business in Babergh and Mid Suffolk who have had to close their doors to customers, or have been significantly financially impacted by Covid-19 restrictions, may be eligible for support. Further info. https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/features/support-available-for-businesses-in-babergh-and-mid-suffolk</p> <p>The numbers of COVID-19 cases and deaths are on the Suffolk public health site which can be accessed at: HTTPS://www.healthysuffolk.org.uk/jsna/coronawatch. It has data massaged by SODA into a really informative form.</p>
<p>INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICE</p>	<p>New 'Independent Living Service' developed to help improve the quality of life of the districts' most vulnerable residents needing home adaptations - offering advice and support to help them live independently and safely in their homes.</p> <p>More information: https://www.babergh.gov.uk/housing/private-sector-housing-grants/independent-living-service/</p> <p>You could receive a Disabled Facilities Grant if you or someone in your household is disabled and changes to your home are needed.</p> <p>Who is the service for? The service is for residents who:live in Babergh or Mid Suffolk, have a registered (or able to be registered as) disability, own a home or rent from a private landlord</p> <p>If you are a Council or housing association tenant, contact your Housing Officer for help and advice on how you can remain safely in your home or consider alternative accommodation.</p>
<p>Locality Budget</p>	<p>Please be advised the deadline date for submitting 2020/21 Locality Awards applications to Councillors before Friday 26th February 2021, two weeks prior to the deadline. Updated forms with wording to this effect have been uploaded to MSDC website.</p>
<p>New West Suffolk Hospital</p>	<p>As the plans for a new hospital for West Suffolk get underway it is important that as many people are involved in developing the proposals as possible. The vision for the West Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust (WSFT) project is to ensure the way that health services are delivered is fit for the local population's current and future needs and the team need your help to do that. The new facility is for West Suffolk people and is to be designed by West Suffolk people.</p> <p>The project team are establishing a Co-production Community Engagement Group (CCEG) which will help shape the public engagement around the hospital redevelopment.</p> <p>If you would like to join the CCEG or to find out more information, please visit the website at https://www.wsh.nhs.uk/New-healthcare-facility/Get-involved.aspx and complete an expression of interest form.</p>