

SUDBURY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING HELD IN THE ASSEMBLY ROOM, TOWN HALL, SUDBURY ON TUESDAY 24TH MAY 2022 AT 7.00 PM

Present: Ms E Murphy, the Mayor of Sudbury, in the CHAIR

Mr C Griffin Town Clerk
Mrs J Budd Deputy Town Clerk

Mr J Ward Leader of Babergh District Council
Mr A Charvonia Chief Executive of Babergh District Council
PS V Birrell SNT Sergeant – Suffolk Police

8 Town Councillors
24 members of public in the Assembly Room, 5 people watching online.

1. MINUTES

That the Minutes of the last Town Meeting held on 19th May 2021 were taken as read, confirmed, signed and ADOPTED.

2. BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr J Ward, the Leader of Babergh District Council, and Mr A Charvonia, Chief Executive of Babergh District Council, attended the meeting. A copy of their reports is shown at minute page 3.

General discussions were had with the public regarding proposals for Hamilton Road, the delay with housing repairs, the council tax 'rebate' etc.

RESOLVED

Members of the public were encouraged to attend the 'What's Next for Sudbury' exhibition to be held on the 16th, 17th & 18th June in the Mayor's Parlour. They were also recommended to attend the town council meetings where each month a district councillor gives a report.

That Mr Ward and Mr Charvonia be thanked for attending the meeting.

3. TOWN MATTERS

Councillor S Ayres had stepped down from her role as Mayor of Sudbury on the 10th May 2022. Unfortunately, she was unable to attend the meeting. The Mayor read out her report.

A copy of the report is shown at minute page 9.

RESOLVED

That Councillor S Ayres be thanked for her report and her commitment to the Town during her time as Mayor.

4. COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

Members of the public all received a copy of Councillor J Carter's Annual County report. A

copy of this is shown at minute page 11.

Councillor for Sudbury East and Great Waldingfield, Mr Philip Faircloth-Mutton was unable to attend the meeting.

RESOLVED

That Ms Carter be thanked for her report as County Councillor and for the work over the past year.

5. DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

Members of the public all received a copy of the District Council report written jointly by Councillors Mr Cresswell and Miss Owen. A copy of the report is shown at minute page 13.

RESOLVED

That Councillors Mr Cresswell and Miss Owen be thanked for their report.

6. SADBURY MUNICIPAL CHARITY ACCOUNTS

The accounts of Sudbury Municipal Charities were distributed to those present at the meeting. A copy of the accounts is shown at minute page 15.

RESOLVED

That the contents of the report be NOTED.

7. POLICE REPORT

Unfortunately, Inspector Matt Paisley was unable to attend the meeting. The new SNT Police Sergeant Victoria Birrell attended the meeting and read out the Inspector's report. A copy of this is shown at minute page 16.

One of the main issues which caused concern to the public was the lack of visual Police, especially on Market days when the town was busy.

With regards to the issue of County Lines, members of the public were advised to keep reporting anything suspicious, as the police rely on local intelligence.

RESOLVED

That Police Sergeant Birrell be thanked for attending the meeting and reading out Inspector Paisley's report.

8. TOWN MATTERS

No other matters were discussed.

There being no other matters proposed for discussion the business of the meeting was concluded at 9.20 pm.

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Chairman

Sudbury Annual Town Meeting 2022

Babergh Leader's Report

As the Covid situation has eased, and restrictions started to get lifted last Summer, we have been able to concentrate more on our programme of delivery and have achieved a lot in the past year at Babergh. We do now seem to be on a firm and permanent trajectory to getting back to normal following the past two years of the Covid pandemic. We must, however, put the problems we have endured into some perspective: the poor people of Ukraine are suffering a far worse tragedy and we must do all we can to help them.

We have prepared a very informative Infographics brochure that gives an excellent and easy to read summary of all we have done. It is full of pictures and, more importantly, numbers. If anyone wants a copy I suggest emailing the clerk, who will have been sent it by the Sudbury district councillors. I would like to take this opportunity to highlight a few things in more detail.

Economy

Our towns are getting busier and business does seem to be picking up for many. Vacancy rates – 10% in Sudbury and 11.6% in Hadleigh – are lower than the national average, which is clearly due to the greater prevalence of small independents rather than chain stores.

The Virtual High Street has really helped many businesses survive lockdown. This was started by Sudbury Town Council and we worked in partnership with them to enhance it and expand its reach geographically. I was delighted to attend an awards ceremony in London last September where it won a gold award, so that was really a shared win for both councils. The Digital Skills Programme, initially launched for businesses on the Virtual High Street, is now open to all businesses in the districts.

We have also launched our Innovate Local programme to support business innovation on our high streets. This comprises Innovation Labs that provide small businesses with access to a work space, mentoring programme as well as advice and training, and market stalls for start-ups that include a free pitch for a set period, along with advice, training and support. The Hadleigh market stall is well-established now and I visited the Innovation Lab here in Sudbury recently as it prepared for its opening.

Our next Careeriosity event takes place in Sudbury on the 1st June. Careeriosity is a skills and education initiative led by Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils, which aims to inform young people aged 13-24 about the fantastic and varied range of jobs available in Suffolk and how to access them. The next Sudbury event is about the marketing industry and is being hosted by branding & marketing agency Mackman group in Meadow Lane. Feedback from past events has been excellent and those attending have found them worthwhile and meaningful. More information can be found on the website.

Communities

For our communities, one of the high points of the past year was the opening of the new pool at Hadleigh Leisure Centre. It is an excellent facility and a testament to all the partners who made it possible to enable a project like this for such a small town.

Our £180k investment in CCTV in Hadleigh and Sudbury is fully operational. We have 21 cameras in Sudbury and 8 in Hadleigh. There is also one mobile camera and we will monitor its use to determine if more are going to be needed.

Housing

In the past year we have added 98 new homes to our housing stock, bringing the total for the past seven years to 232. All have been built to an EPC rating of B.

Our retrofitting programme to improve insulation, install new heating systems and address damp and mould is proceeding well and significant progress can now be seen on the Springlands estate. In addition, we are installing external wall insulation and replacement windows elsewhere in the district. Babergh and Mid Suffolk were recently awarded £324,000 from the government's new Rough

Sleepers Accommodation Programme. This will allow us to build specialised emergency accommodation units in Sudbury and Stowmarket for those who have been excluded and marginalised due to complex needs and will add to the existing 80 temporary units and 11 rough sleeper units our districts already have.

This latest round of funding will also enable us to build on work made possible due to the previously successful Rough Sleeper Initiative Funding bid, which was used to create a dedicated outreach and mental health support service for rough sleepers.

Public Realm Team

We have brought our public realm service back in house and we now have a single, enhanced team covering all of Babergh and Mid Suffolk. We have invested in a lot of new equipment – street cleaners, mowers and other tools – to ensure that they are able to keep the districts clean and tidy. The weather often plays a part in disrupting schedules and there are also the unplanned tasks such as emergency tree work and responding to fly-tipping. Fly-tipping numbers have, unfortunately, increased but we respond very quickly, with 95% being cleared within 48 hours. The worst cases, where country lanes are blocked, are cleared within a few hours.

On the matter of grass cutting, we're not specifically doing No Mow May as we have found it causes quite a few issues with complaints: there are very different views amongst residents as to what they like to see. However, the team is trying to cut less, particularly to avoid cutting wildflowers where they are evident until the seeds have set.

Environment

We have made a huge amount of progress towards our net zero by 2030 target and I just want to highlight the key achievements so far:

- The single biggest contribution has been the replacement of diesel with HVO in our vehicle fleet. Our vehicles were accounting for 25.9% of the total CO₂ emissions of the two councils.
- We have invested £2.8m in solar panels and car ports across the two districts:
 - A total of 730 solar panels have been installed on our two leisure centres and at the Wenham depot. The Babergh leisure centres were accounting for 18.9% of the two councils' CO₂ emissions.
 - I'm sure you will have seen the solar car ports nearing completion in the Station Road car park.
- A new filtration system, saving both energy and water, has been installed at the Kingfisher leisure centre.
- Across the two districts, we have installed solar panels on 2,000 council houses in the past year and 250 more now have air-source heat pumps.
- We have undertaken a tree canopy survey and a biodiversity mapping exercise.
- In addition to our successful Tree for Life programme, in the past year 281 trees were planted and 4,690 hedgerow plants distributed to towns and parishes. This is only the start of a long-term programme to increase our tree canopy.
- In the autumn, we held our first Local Energy Showcase at Wherstead Park, celebrating sustainability and green energy. This promoted how different types of energy can be used by communities and businesses to help reduce their impact on the environment, lower costs and contribute to the fight against climate change.

LCWIP

We have nearly completed our Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan, following endorsement by the two cabinets in April, and will soon be writing to all stakeholders to invite feedback on specific schemes.

Planning

The only real setback concerns the suspension of the Joint Local Plan examination process while we address changes required by the inspectors. Although this is not unusual, it is disappointing as it means more delay – but we have still made more rapid progress than many councils. We have agreed with the inspectors' proposals to proceed with a two-part plan. Development control policies, including important social, economic and environmental objectives, will be put in place first, while remaining work on spatial strategy matters and site allocations are addressed in part two.

Late last year we published our latest five-year housing land supply position statement which shows that we can again meet the statutory housing requirement, with a housing land supply of 6.86 years – a slight improvement on 6.75 years in the previous year. This means that our current planning policy, the Core Strategy, is still valid when determining planning applications.

Babergh 2022/23 Budget

At the February council meeting, Babergh's budget for 2022/23 was approved and included an increase in council tax of 2%, or £3.48 a year for a Band D property. The annual council tax for a Band D property will now be £177.34. There is also an increase of 4.1% in council house rents, which is equivalent to an average increase of £3.72 a week for social rents and £5.23 a week for affordable rents.

Devolution and the Suffolk County Deal

Late last year the government finally published its Levelling Up White Paper which contains the framework for the county devolution deals that are on offer. Following the expression of interest submitted by the Suffolk Public Sector Leaders' Group last year, we were successful in becoming one of the nine counties to be offered a County deal. We have now started an intensive period of negotiation on the powers and flexibilities that will form the deal we eventually secure. These powers are likely to cover the economy, environment, transport and skills development.

Sudbury

In the past couple of years we have seen the completion of our £2.4m refurbishment and modernisation investment in the Kingfisher leisure centre and also seen our financial support for Gainsborough's House and St. Peter's being used to help with exciting projects to transform these cultural venues.

What's Next for Sudbury Exhibition

Looking forward, we will be holding a new public exhibition 'What's Next for Sudbury?' from 16th to 18th June showcasing plans and proposals for the town. This will update residents on progress on several projects since our last exhibition in January 2020.

Visitors to the exhibition will be able to get an update on plans for the future of Market Hill, development of the Hamilton Road Quarter and the new café at Belle Vue Park, the new Innovation Lab in Borehamgate, and further developments on the Virtual High Street. There will also be a range of other initiatives and projects on show, including Gainsborough's House, St Peter's Church and the solar car port in the Station Road car park. Finally, visitors will also see the new initiatives from the Bridge Project and will be able to find out about the work of the Sudbury Culture Group.

Hamilton Road

Hamilton Road is a complex and difficult project and we are in the process of submitting a new Levelling Up Fund bid that, if successful, will enable us to make progress with the site. The bid will be for approximately £8m to help with the regeneration of the site and provide junction improvements and new on-street bus stops and infrastructure at more convenient routes and locations around the town.

Medical Centre

Also this year, we sold the lorry park so that the Hardwicke House GP practice can build a new medical centre, which will enable them to provide many more services for their patients. We are currently working with county colleagues on solutions for alternative lorry parking with facilities.

Post Office

Lastly, I have some very good news. Babergh has been proactive behind the scenes in responding to the closure of the post office in town and I am pleased to report that we have now agreed a licence for

a mobile post office unit to be situated in Borehamgate. The licence will commence in June before the closure of the current post office facility and so allow continuity of service. We continue to support the post office with finding a longer-term solution and I hope that a further announcement can be made soon.

Summary

In addition to the gold award I have mentioned, we also won silver for process improvement and use of new technology by the planning enforcement team, and bronze in the council of the year category. It is great to know that we are being recognised by others in the country and that we must be doing something right for our residents. But there is room for improvement: gold for council of the year would be nice one day.

John Ward
Leader, Babergh District Council
john.ward@babergh.gov.uk

1. Keeping me up at night

- Tackling **cost of living** crisis – developed a plan (Cabinet 08.06.22)
- Remaining **flexible** - Covid Recovery & Response yo-yo
- Supporting **refugees**
- **Climate** emergency
- **Staff** recruitment & retention

May not be statutory responsibilities or ‘the day job’ but they are to me – all about leadership

2. Corporate overview of Babergh

Priorities

- Corporate Plan (been in place 2.5 years)
- “*Building Great Communities with Bright & Healthy Futures that everyone is proud to call home*”
- 6 linked political priorities:
 - Economy
 - Housing
 - Environment
 - Wellbeing
 - Communities
 - Customers
- Residents, customers, tenants, businesses, tourists, electors BUT ultimately - improving quality of life / wellbeing
- Refresh over next 12 months – want to draw in your views of what is most important – what should be BDC’s priorities?

Engagement

- Recent review of the council by LGA (publish in next few weeks) confirmed that Babergh:
- “*are well run and deliver good core services to residents.*”
- are “*punching above their weight*” and well respected in the region.

- External partners reported a noticeable step change over the past 3 years in the Council's aspirations for place shaping and delivery.
- *"The Council has huge ambition for place in relation to regeneration, economic development, housing and wellbeing. There is a clear desire from the political leadership of both councils to improve the lives of residents through creation of high paid jobs, upskilling and reskilling, increasing the tourism offer and improving the quality of everyone's lives."*
- We accept that we won't get everything right but the LGA reported that we have *"much to celebrate & should promote this more"*.
- While partnership work is strong, communities, partners and stakeholders expressed a strong desire to work even more closely with the Councils to support delivery. This is essential if BMSDCs are to achieve the outcomes desired within the timescales outlined. The Councils do not have the capacity, resources and in some cases expert knowledge to deliver everything and need to harness the skills and capacity available from others – asking for help would be seen as proactive and a strength. Community partners strongly encourage early engagement to co-produce and co-deliver solutions to local issues
- Being here tonight is a first good step in that direction but we want to go much further
- We are introducing annual residents' survey (proportionate rather than whole population) starting in June
- But also want to broaden and deepen our engagement with all of you, working more closely with and listening to our communities to improve people's lives.

Arthur Charvonia

Chief Executive

Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils – Working Together

TOWN REPORT – COUNCILLOR MRS SUE AYRES

Firstly, please accept my apologies for not being with you all in person. I start my report with a ‘glass half full’ attitude, not empty as we finally come out of the Pandemic.

During my time as Mayor, the Town has started to come alive again. Businesses are fully functional, and events being planned. We have seen new business arrive, but sadly lost some along the way as well.

It’s great that free parking for three hours has been upheld for now – this is partly due to the pressure put on the District Council by Sudbury Town Council. It is important that this remains despite three new members of the cabinet not being local to Sudbury!

We fought to save the Advice Centre in the Town Hall. The service now runs on a Monday & Thursday in the Library for a total of 10 hours, compared to the 25 hrs the service received from the Town Hall.

We have recently been notified that Suffolk County Council have removed their funding. This

means the staff in the Information Office can no longer assist with blue badge and bus pass enquiries, making appointments at the waste site which is a great shame.

It is now time for Sudbury to move onward and upward, with full consultation with the Town Council and the people of Sudbury on the future plans for Sudbury.

During my time as Mayor, I had great pleasure in attending many functions such as:

- The Annual Suffolk Day celebrations
- The Regatta on Friars Meadow
- Various Civic services
- Remembrance Sunday
- Switching on of the Town's Christmas Lights.

I also held my Christmas Card Competition. This year only using the two senior schools.

My charities this year were Compassion and Hope for Tomorrow. I'm delighted to announce that each charity will receive £424.30.

I wish you all well for the year ahead.

Councillor Mrs Sue Ayres.

Date: 08/05/2022

Email: jessie.carter@suffolk.gov.uk

Phone: 07955 434411



Annual 2021 / 2022 Report for Sudbury Town Council - Jessie Carter (SCC Councillor)

GLI Group becomes Official Opposition

Since last year's County Council Elections, the Suffolk Green Liberal Democrat & Independent Group have been tasked with trying to hold the Conservative administration to account. The Conservatives having a strong majority with 55 seats out of 75, but we have been able to bring forward questions & motions throughout the year and challenge them to do the best for Suffolk.

Budget Meeting: GLI Amendments Declined

Suffolk County Council voted in their budget for 2022-23. Our Group were concerned that the budget relied too heavily on transformation savings, and that the Conservative's did not take the maximum social care precept to fund adult care allowed by Government.

Suffolk GLI Group highlighted the need to invest more in adult social care, as well as an innovative project to reduce the energy bills of those most vulnerable, considering the current energy and cost of living crisis. Both ideas were rejected by the Conservatives, but our Group will continue to champion more investment into our social care and green technology that can lower bills.

No Carbon Budget for Scrutiny

Conservatives brought forward the first Carbon Budget for Suffolk, but it wasn't part of the main budget. So wasn't put through the Scrutiny process in the same way. The Carbon Budget is aimed to help us understand the level of emissions the Council are responsible for and helps to achieve the Council's ambition of being carbon-neutral by 2030. It is important the Carbon Budget is scrutinised, as there are many issues with data collection and performance measures that weren't addressed. Our Group raised concerns about this and has been assured that this will form part of the general budget process for next year.

Levelling Up: A Devolution Deal for Suffolk?

The Government published its White Paper on Levelling-Up, within which it has agreed that Suffolk will be one of nine initial 'County Deals' up for negotiation. A new deal will potentially give local leaders more powers to make decisions for their communities for the first time. Our Group welcomes the idea of bringing more power to the communities of Suffolk. However, we are concerned about a potential Mayoral position created in Suffolk and the effect this may have on marginalising districts in Suffolk.

Report into SEND Provision: Review & Recommendations

Suffolk County Council commissioned an independent review into Special Educational Needs and Disability provision. The report found severe failings in the delivery of Education, Health, and Care (EHC) plans for children, serious issues in communicating with parent/guardians, as well as an inefficient work environment within the service.

The scrutiny committee have met since the report to listen to lead officers within the service and parents, debate necessary changes, and submit recommendations for improvement. This included extended training, newly appointed managerial posts, and new accountability structures to help deal with the issues outlined in the previous report.

Bus Back Better: Initiative from the Department for Transport (DfT)

The Bus Back Better scheme was launched this year, aimed at updating, expanding, and improving our bus services in Great Britain. The Cabinet at Suffolk County Council approved a Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) submitted to Government, while Suffolk County Council still wait for DfT to confirm the final funding. All proposals of the BSIP that were passed by Cabinet can be viewed here: [https://committeeminutes.suffolk.gov.uk/DocSetPage.aspx?MeetingTitle=\(12-10-2021\),%20The%20Cabinet](https://committeeminutes.suffolk.gov.uk/DocSetPage.aspx?MeetingTitle=(12-10-2021),%20The%20Cabinet)

Biodiversity Recommendations to Enhance

Suffolk County Council will be doing more for the county's natural environment, as it confirmed plans to enhance the biodiversity of at least 30% of its land by 2030. Our Group had a major influence in providing recommendations to SCC which are now a part of the Council's ambitions moving forward to enhance biodiversity. Examples include planting more hedgerows, improving highway trees, and developing nature-based flood management solutions. For more information, visit: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/council-news/show/councils-commitment-to-further-enhancing-suffolks-natural-environment>

Sizewell C: Where are we now?

Our Group has asked searching questions regarding this project, arguing the environmental and socio-economic impacts on local communities are far too great. The Government announced their strategy to retain investors, by shifting the costs of Sizewell C onto consumers, in the form of a taxpayer subsidy known as a 'Regulated Asset Base' funding strategy.

Our Group rejected this strategy, and strongly recommended that the Government reconsiders before it puts the burden of cost onto our local communities, and instead looks into investing in cleaner, cheaper, and quicker forms of renewable energy available to Suffolk. Suffolk County Council have announced their general support for Sizewell C but have taken up 'important concerns' to the Secretary of State.

New Investment in Drainage and Footway Infrastructure

The Cabinet approved £10m to replace broken pipes and new installations, as well as an additional £10m to increase the maintenance of selected footways in Suffolk.

Lorry Route Map Review in Suffolk: Interactive Map to be Published

Suffolk County Council undertook a review of recommended lorry routes across the county; the first major review of the network since 2011. Suffolk County Council invited parish and town councils for their views, and to provide up to three routes where they believe HGV traffic has the highest impact on their communities. The review will be completed in Spring 2022 where the County Council plan to publish a new interactive Lorry Route map. For further information, please contact lorry.routes@suffolk.gov.uk,

Local Electricity Bill: Suffolk GLI Motion Passed by Council

A motion submitted by our Group ask Suffolk County Council to support the Local Electricity Bill, which is a proposed Bill waiting to be debated in Parliament for its Second Reading, was passed unanimously by the Council. The Bill seeks to localise energy supply, making local electricity cheaper, more reliable, and community based. Details of the motion and Local Electricity Bill can be found here: <https://powerforpeople.org.uk/local-electricity-bill-briefing-for-councillors>

Update on the £150 Council Tax Energy Rebate

On 3 February 2022, the Government announced measures to help protect millions of households from rising energy costs in 2022/23.

This includes a rebate, worth £150, for households in England in Council Tax bands A to D. This one-off rebate is non-repayable and is known as the 'Council Tax energy rebate'.

Eligible households will receive a payment of £150 - not an automatic reduction on their bill. There is one payment per household, regardless of the number of occupants or council taxpayers named on the bill.

We anticipate being able to make the first £150 energy rebate payments to those residents who pay their council tax by Direct Debit from mid-April following the completion of pre-payment assurance checks.

Once the initial round of payments have been made, we will be contacting residents who are not registered to pay by Direct Debit to confirm how they can claim their energy rebate.

Babergh Governance Model.

On 21 September 2021, Babergh District Council (BDC) unanimously made the following resolution:

After five years of the current leader/cabinet governance model, the Council believes it is time to review how effectively this is working and assess it against a committee governance model. Council will therefore instruct the Constitution Working Group and officers to define the details, including benefits and disadvantages, of an improved cabinet model and a suitable committee model.

Options considered were

To retain the existing leader and cabinet model of governance with no alterations to the way in which it currently operates – i.e. no change.

To retain the leader and cabinet model of governance with additional measures to engage with all members of BDC. A disadvantage of the leader and cabinet model is that councillors who are not members of the cabinet can feel uninvolved and disengaged with key strategic decisions affecting the council. A way of retaining the efficiencies and accountabilities of a leader and cabinet model, whilst involving the wider council membership, would be to agree additional measures that would provide the opportunity to engage in cabinet decision-making.

To adopt a committee system model of governance.

Full Council approved the retention of the leader and cabinet model of governance with additional measures to engage with all members of BDC.

Council to down-size accommodation march 2022

Babergh Cabinet voted to reconfigure the workspace that they use at Endeavour house. This will allow them to give back a floor saving approximately £338,000. Following on from changing work practices over the last two years it is clear that staff can change the way they work with more home working. The change will also allow the council to provide a more efficient workspace.

Residents, visitors and business owners in Sudbury were invited to view outline plans for improvements to Belle Vue Park.

The public display featured plans for a new-look entrance, new café with outdoor and indoor seating overlooking a relocated children's play area and new toilet facilities. There are also plans to introduce a Changing Places facility which will provide accessible, spacious toilets for visitors with disabilities.

The plans were displayed at the central green area of the park on:

- Friday 15 October between 10am - 3pm
- Saturday 16 October between 10am - 2pm
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Belle Vue Park is an important asset for Sudbury and by carrying out a range of improvements, Babergh District Council are hoping to make the park more welcoming and accessible for all.

Visitors to the public display will be able to have their say on the proposals by completing a feedback form which will also be available online, along with the design concepts.

Following the public event in the park, the outline plans went on display in the window of Unit 12, the former Fanboo salon, in the Borehamgate Arcade until 1 November 2021.

SUDBURY MUNICIPAL CHARITIES - INCOME & EXPENDITURE 2021

Date	INCOME	Total	SCLC	M & G	Ascension Day Gifts	ADMINISTRATION
28-Jan	Sudbury Common Lands Charity	4,000.00	4,000.00			
26-Feb	M&G Investment Fund	297.36		297.36		
28-May	M&G Investment Fund	555.93		555.93		
31-Aug	M&G Investment Fund	465.43		465.43		
09-Nov	Sudbury Common Lands Charity	250.00	250.00			
15-Dec	M&G Investment Fund	594.71		594.71		
		6,163.43	4,250.00	1,913.43		
	EXPENDITURE	Total	Christmas Gifts	Grants to Organisations	Ascension Day Gifts	ADMINISTRATION
10-Mar	Sudbury Common Lands Charity	500.00				500.00
19-May	Moore Green - Financial Statements	360.00				360.00
27-May	Roy's Wroxham Limited	540.00			540.00	
02-Jun	Peddars of Sudbury	1,170.00	1,170.00			
09-Jun	Roy's Wroxham Limited	480.00			480.00	
15-Jun	Roy's Wroxham Limited	150.00			150.00	
22-Jun	Roy's Wroxham Limited	420.00			420.00	
01-Jul	Roy's Wroxham Limited	180.00			180.00	
08-Jul	Roy's Wroxham Limited	210.00			210.00	
16-Jul	Roy's Wroxham Limited	180.00			180.00	
09-Sep	Peddars of Sudbury	135.00	135.00			
03-Nov	Roy's Wroxham Limited	360.00			360.00	
12-Nov	S. & D. Citizens Advice	500.00		500.00		
12-Nov	S. Community Depot @ The C. Centre	500.00		500.00		
12-Nov	C. Centre - Monday Drop In	500.00		500.00		
12-Nov	The Christopher Centre	500.00		500.00		
12-Nov	Kernos Centre	750.00		750.00		
12-Nov	Mrs P Bennett (Pats Dayz Owt)	500.00		500.00		
18-Nov	Abi's Footprints	500.00		500.00		
		8,435.00	1,305.00	3,750.00	2,520.00	500.00
						360.00
	Opening Balance 1/1/21	3,024.24				
	Add Income 2021	6,163.43				
		9,187.67				
	Deduct Expenditure 2021	8,435.00				
	Closing Balance 31/12/21	752.67				

Inspector Matt Paisley – Police Report for the Sudbury Annual Town Council Meeting
20th May 2022

Good evening to you all, and apologies for my unavoidable absence. I wanted to give you a brief update on policing in Sudbury, a summary of the last twelve months, and a picture of where our local priorities are moving forward.

As we gradually progress toward a new normality post Covid, I remain acutely focussed on the impact the pandemic has had on our communities and the influence this has on vulnerability, anti-social behaviour and crime and disorder.

I reported last year that demand on policing had changed, with common crime types reducing, but others seemingly taking their place. Unfortunately, since restrictions have ended, we have seen in general terms an increase in burglary related offences, with businesses and sheds and garages being the key targeted areas as well as a rise in theft from motor vehicle offences. There has been some success in identifying offenders linked to small crime series' throughout the year, and we continue to work with our partners in an effort to reduce the likelihood of offending through target hardening, traditional crime reduction techniques and pro-active enforcement.

Whilst our local priorities are regularly reviewed by me, and dynamically changed to meet the demands of changes in crime reporting and intelligence in the local communities, there remain three overarching areas that retain my teams' focus. They are:

1. County Lines and drugs related crime. The policing of county lines is not as straight forward as arresting a dealer to take them out of circulation. The Lines are so well established that they will recruit a new drugs runner as quickly as we can remove them from the streets. It is for this reason that we continue to focus on all elements of the drugs business to achieve positive results. My teams continue to intrusively visit know addresses that will support or promote the taking and dealing of drugs, working with housing providers to ensure those that abuse their housing rights are tackled in a robust manner.

We work with mental health, social services, charities, and the probation service to focus on addiction, rehabilitation, and the aftermath of prosecution as we look for longer term solutions to drugs related problems.

Intelligence is shared cross border with other police forces, and we work closely with the Metropolitan Police where there is very much a focus on the heads of the lines, taking action to dismantle the leaders to prevent a further resurgence.

We also work with schools to break down barriers with young people, educating them and ourselves around the reasons behind a coercion into the drugs business.

In the last year, three County Lines have been removed from Sudbury. Others have followed. Remaining proactive and intelligence led provides our best opportunity in tackling drugs crime, and my officers remain heavily committed to infiltrating and disrupting the drugs lines entering into our area.

2. Violence against women and girls. In July 2021, the government launched its 'Tackling Violence against Women and Girls' strategy. Evidence suggests that some forms of violence against women and girls are so commonplace that many women and girls don't even think they are worth reporting. This is the case for things like being grabbed, touched, and/or threatened by strangers.

We have invested new energy into looking at national guidance combined with local feeling to better understand the hurt this causes our victims. For too long, women have faced upsetting, misogynistic and often degrading treatment that has gone unreported, leaving victims feeling vulnerable.

My officers are focussed on the victim and will continue to provide support through the criminal justice process making efforts to build confidence in the community that crimes of this nature are being taken seriously. Education also plays a part in longer term, sustainable solutions in making women feel safe in any situation, which is why we are committed to working with other agencies in promoting a better response to our communities.

3. Anti-social Behaviour. We have upskilled our workforce to better understand the causes and effects of anti-social behaviour. We have introduced new practices to support better recording of such incidents and introduced problem solving plans to formally identify best practice in tackling and reducing ASB.

All ASB coming into Suffolk Police is risk assessed, and there are escalating responsibilities based on level of risk. We recognise that the perceived low-level nuisance in a park will escalate if it is not tackled in the right way, and we have reaffirmed our commitment with partners to continue to break down every angle of ASB with plans put in place to look for long term resolutions.

The coming months will no doubt be extremely busy for us all, with the Jubilee celebrations on the horizon, which will naturally increase the demand on my policing teams. That said, I am pleased to report that our levels of crime related to licensed premises' and the night-time economy still sit at a low level and I remain thankful to the businesses in Town, Town Council and the local authority in making the town a vibrant but enjoying place to visit and socialise.

The key message from me moving forward is that my teams will be prioritising supporting those most vulnerable within our communities, targeting those offenders who continue to bring with them the most threat and risk, and to work together with you all to prevent and detect crime, and to keep our streets safe!

I am Inspector Matt Paisley, but we are all Sudbury.
Thank you!