

Gislingham Ward

Mellis, Gislingham, Thornham Parva, Thornham Magna, Wortham & Burgate,
Wickham Skeith.

District Councillor Report - September 2026

The 'Big Conversation' – a chance to fix social care challenges.	Mid Suffolk and Babergh urge people to have their say in fixing adult social care. This follows the landmark review from the 'Casey Commission'. Can take part using this link: The Big Conversation on Care The Casey Commission .
Progress with SHELF project at Chilton Fields	The new 3G sports pitch and athletic track at Stowmarket High School were completed last week as part of the SHELF project. This received funding from the FA, Premier League and Football Foundation as well as MSDC. Everyone Active will be managing bookings for the use of these new facilities from next month.
E-bikes for hire in Stowmarket	A new solar-powered pod containing 2 electric bikes has been installed at Mid Suffolk Leisure Centre, giving residents the chance to explore the town using a different sustainable travel option. Also a great idea to try out e-bikes before deciding to get one for yourself.
Gateway 14 news	Dali-2 has committed £18.8 million in funding in the Skills and Innovation centre. Dali-2 has been incorporated for a lighting control system designed to improve energy management, simplify maintenance, and support the building's sustainability targets. .
Local housing for local people	MSDC Cabinet agreed to introduce a Parish Connection Priority for new affordable and social rented homes secured through S106 agreements.
Financial assistance for heat pumps	Grants of up £9,000 are now available for households to convert older oil othr gas heating systems with Heat Pump systems. Air source heat pumps typically use three to four times less energy than a traditional boiler to heat a home and produce fewer emissions than a gas, oil or LPG boiler, for a cleaner, more sustainable home. Residents of Suffolk can check their eligibility and register their interest on the Switch Together website .
Derelict Fisons site at Bramford.	MSDC has stepped it to install CCTV to deter anti-social behaviour at the derelict Fisons site in Bramford. There have been a number of serious fire and vandalism incidents over many years. The sit owners, Paper Mill Lane Properties are responsible for the security, but MDSC decided to take action themselves whilst exploring future options for the site with the owners. Unfortunately the planning permission for redevelopment of this site has now lapsed and its future is uncertain.
LGR	The Government has withdrawn its decision to implement Local Government Reorganisation in Suffolk, effectively cancelling the current LGR proposals.
Locality budget	The 2026-27 Locality budgets are now available so I would love to receive applications for funding from any community group in Gislingham Ward. Details can be found on the website https://midsuffolk.gov.uk/w/locality-awards . Please contact me to discuss your application before submitting in.

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Cllr. Gislingham Ward