

**Report to Cotton Parish Council  
Sept 2018**

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**Woolpit planning appeal** A planning application for 49 houses on Green Road, Woolpit has gone to appeal. The appeal hearing began in July but was adjourned due to the recent publication of MSDC's new 5-year land supply figures. The hearing occurred on 30th and 31st August. There were three main strands to the appeal – highway implication, housing land supply figures and impact on heritage assets. The very curious detail is that the agents concerned argued as to msdc's ability to uphold its five year land supply, and the Mid Suffolk representative claimed they had 5.39 years, a good way short of the 6.5 claimed in the annual monitoring report, this could be the change in calculating the numbers post the July National planning policy framework affecting the figures, given the gravity of this arbitrary number this needs further explanation.

**Wetherden Road planning application in Elmswell** Planning application for 240 houses either side of Wetherden Road, Elmswell was discussed at planning committee in August, but was deferred for the applicant to make some amendments to the road layout and parking provision, and most importantly the members considered refusing due to poor quality design, but deferred to give the applicant time to rethink the design.

**Foyer Scheme, Stowmarket** The Foyer in Stowmarket will open on 10 September as temporary housing provision for up to 17 families. This will be a real boost to reduce homelessness in the district. And will save the district council money because less will need spending on emergency bed and breakfast accommodation.

**Shop front grant scheme**, mid Suffolk have just launched a scheme were shop owners can apply for a grant to improve their shopfronts in Stowmarket, this scheme is inspired by much of the work carried out by the Mary Portas review.

Andrew Stringer  
Mid Suffolk District Councillor – Mendlesham Ward  
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