

Mid Suffolk District Council – Mendlesham Ward

**Report to Cotton Parish Council
July 2018**

Five year housing land supply: On Wednesday 11th July, Mid Suffolk advised it now has a Housing Land Supply of 6.5 years. (Government requires that it is greater than 5 years.) This is good news for the future as it will mean planning applications will be decided within policy however this may not last. The revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) is due to be finalised by Government this month, before Parliament stops for a summer break, and contains the expectation that Government will set future housing numbers (the Objectively Assessed Need – OAN) rather than local authorities setting them. These numbers are considerably higher than those currently being delivered by Mid Suffolk and that are explained in the Annual Monitoring Report which provides the detail of the new Housing Land Supply figures.

Mid Suffolk are reviewing all current planning applications and pre-applications to see how this applies to them.

Public loos: Mid Suffolk has just approved a policy to support public toilets being run by communities and also to draw up a scheme whereby businesses (pubs, cafés etc) advertise that the public can use their loos without necessarily being a customer. The final details of the scheme are yet to be agreed but I think it will be positive for visitors and tourism.

Andrew Stringer
Mid Suffolk District Councillor – Mendlesham Ward
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