

District Councillor Report for Stansfield Parish Council Meeting on 16th May 2022

Apologies for my absence. I have Covid and am in isolation!

Council Tax Rebate Update

Like all councils across the land West Suffolk Council has been inundated with requests from non-direct debit paying residents for their £150.00 Government rebate. To date we have paid 45,600 households who use direct debit and 2527 non-direct debit paying households. We have 2285 still to process. The IT system is struggling with the volume of applications and we are aware of the problem. Please keep trying. The dedicated phone line is 01842 756456 or you can apply on-line at <https://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/counciltax/council-tax-rebate-grant.cfm>

Planning

DC/22/0745/HH is the only application I have outstanding for Stansfield.

The Draft Local Plan is going before the Full Council tomorrow evening and if approved, will be put out for consultation from 26th May-26th July 2022. As soon as I have a date for the roadshow in Stansfield, I will be in touch with the Parish Council. The comments received during this 8 week consultation period will go to form the final draft which will be sent to the Secretary of State for comment in May 2023.

H M Land Registry is taking central control of all Land Registry enquiries and West Suffolk District Council are currently involved in migrating our records to the central digital register. When this is complete it will be H M Land Registry not West Suffolk District Council who will respond to searches. WSDC will continue to provide CON29 searches. We will have to close our search facility to affect the electronic transfer so for a period of time no one will be able to access search facilities in West Suffolk. No date has been agreed yet but when it is, I will let you know when and for how long we will effectively be "off-line".

Planning Enforcement at West Suffolk are recruiting more staff and until new staff are in post, it would be appreciated by the two officers in post if anyone wishing to report a potential planning enforcement matter could use the on-line form

<https://westsuffolk.gov.uk/Westsuffolk-self.achieveservice.com>