

Hadleigh Town Council Report August 2026

Successful Community Infrastructure Levy bids in Hadleigh

The Calais Street recreation ground play area improvement project has received £76,756 to upgrade the children's play equipment including making some equipment accessible to all. Hadleigh Pool & Leisure also received £101,472.53 towards a major enhancement project.

Early Cutting of Wildflower Meadows

Public Realm have been cutting areas of wildflower meadow earlier than planned this year because of the fire risk, starting in late July rather than late August. Priority will be given to meadows close to fences or houses, with more remote meadows left until later to retain more habitat for wildlife. They believe that any ecological impact will be limited, with the hot weather already having hastened the lifecycle of many species.

Better Recycling

The number of concerns around the new recycling schedule seems to be gradually reducing as people get used to the new system. We would like to remind residents to rinse food waste from containers before putting them in the blue bins as we have had reports of unwashed items attracting maggots. The waste collection teams may refuse to empty bins if the contents aren't clean as they contaminate the load meaning none of it can be recycled.

Getting used to the changes take time and some items can pose a challenge if anyone is unsure of what goes where or have any other queries, please see the website <https://www.babergh.gov.uk/changes-to-bin-collections> or contact one of us.

Changes to access to farm track at Holbecks Park

The area marked red on the map below, which is adjacent to the picnic area on the River Walk, has been used for parking in recent years, mostly by dog walkers. Access to this private land was originally put in to improve car parking for the Hadleigh Show. Apparently, the number of cars using the site has increased especially since parking charges were introduced which has resulted in the track getting very churned up. The number of vehicles has also been preventing access to the adjoining fields by farm machinery.

As you may know, the land owner is proposing to install a gate across the track entrance to prevent parking. However, there will still be pedestrian access to the public footpath.



The landowner and their agent have said they will provide 1 months' notice of these changes, via appropriate signage at the track entrance. They have also contacted us district councillors and the Hadleigh Town Clerk Wendy Brame to make us aware of this change. They intend to inform members of the public through the Hadleigh Community News and Hadleigh Facebook Notice Board prior to the new gate being installed. At the moment we don't know the actual date of instalment.

National Grid Bramford to Twinstead Community Fund

This fund is available for communities in the areas of the Bramford to Twinstead pylons project, which includes Hadleigh. The Community Fund comprises a Local Fund and Strategic Fund, which is for region wide projects.

The Local Fund is open to non-profit, community-focused organisations delivering work in communities closest to the project, including:

- Registered Charities
- Registered non-profit Companies Limited by Guarantee
- Community Benefit/ Mutual Societies that do not operate for profit or habitual payment of dividends
- Parish/town councils applying for support with non-statutory projects
- Parent Teacher Associations or “Friends of” organisations associated with schools
- Other constituted non-profit organisations operating for wider community benefit

Three grant sizes are available, depending on the type and scale of the project:

Up to £5000 – early stage/feasibility work

Up to £10,000 – delivery of community projects (up to 12 months)

Up to £20,000 - for capital projects e.g., building improvements, with contractor quotes and planning in place.

The Local Fund is open year-round for applications which are organised into ‘rounds’, each with a deadline. If you miss one, your application will be considered in the next round. The next ‘round’ will be considered in the autumn.

For more information please see: <https://localgiving.org/bramford-to-twinstead-community-fund>

Changes to Hadleigh High Street

We await the outcome of the public consultation to changes to the High Street to create a one-way system to allow pavements to be widened. Two drop-in events organised by Suffolk County Council (SCC) were well attended and it appeared that residents who attended were generally in favour. The comments received via the questionnaire which closed on 20th July will also be considered.

It has been noted that many High Street businesses have concerns about these ideas. Hopefully, SCC officers will be contacting them to listen to their concerns.

Locality Awards

Our Locality Awards are open for applications. We each have £2000 to spend locally.

If anyone has any questions, please get in touch using the contact details below.

Jane Carruthers jane.carruthers@babergh.gov.uk

Simon Dowling simon.dowling@babergh.gov.uk

Kathryn Grandon kathryn.grandon@babergh.gov.uk