

Annual Parish Report – Drinkstone 2026

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I have attended parish council meetings throughout the year to feedback on updates at the District Council and follow up on queries raised from the Parish council and residents.

During the past year there we have seen some changes as the government have begun to implement their changes.

The joint local plan is now being revisited following an increase in the housing allocations given to Mid Suffolk (increase 37%) An additional call for sites have been made and we hope to have a revised plan soon.

The introduction of 'Better Recycling' has been developed and due for implementation in the next few weeks, generating considerable local debate.

Suffolk and Norfolk are now one of the first areas in the country to be part of Local Government Review and Devolution, we now know that we are moving towards a three Unitary configuration, with elections for Unitary councillors to replace both District and County councillors next May 2027.

I have also been able to give advice and other grants available from Mid Suffolk and other sources to local groups.

I add my appreciation to those of many residents in wishing Penny Otten a long and happy retirement after supporting the local community for over 35 years.

Nicky Willshere