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Report to the Hadleigh Town Council 21<sup>st</sup> September 2017

Madam Mayor,

I am pleased to report that although it has been a busy month I have been attentive to the needs of my constituents and have attended various District Council meetings on their behalf.

#### COUNCILS MERGER

As you are aware from press reports and elsewhere, there are early stage discussions on the options for the sustainability of the Council, but as you can understand, this is very sensitive and confidential currently. If and when things proceed further, the public and councils will be engaged and consulted. At this stage, I am not able to discuss this further.

#### BABERGH MOVE

To update you on the move, I can confirm that Councillors will be moving and operating from Endeavour House from 1<sup>st</sup> October, as planned.

Discussions are continuing with staff and unions, but it is expected that officers will have a staggered start from October.

There is not much to update currently concerning Corks Lane. Architects have been appointed and they are looking into the options and viability of the site. It is not expected to stay empty for long.

#### 91 BUS TO IPSWICH

I have been contacted by a number of people, particularly older people, who are concerned about the new Beestons timetable for buses to Ipswich. As you are probably aware, older people may use their bus pass from 9.30am and the 9.30am bus to Ipswich was well-used. Since 4<sup>th</sup> September, Beestons have been operating a new timetable. The first bus leaving Hadleigh for Ipswich after 9.30am is now at 10.20am (after driving the High School loop, it leaves Hadleigh at 10.30am). The earlier bus now leaves Hadleigh at 9.25am. This means that older people are finding it impossible to attend hospital and other appointments by bus using their card and they are unable to enjoy the benefits of getting the full use of their card as they are missing bus links to other destinations.

I am trying to fight to get this changed, how successful I will be, we shall see. I have written to James Finch (who I now understand is indisposed currently), but I have also written to Phil Magill (Operations Manager, Passenger Transport at SCC) and received a detailed reply. I was asking for a creative response, but unfortunately this has not happened. I attach his reply.

Tomorrow I have a formal appointment with the Directors of Beestons and shall be attending with County Councillor Michael Fraser. We will be discussing all the issues and Beestons are keen to have this meeting with us.

#### East House

The planning application for the conversion of East House into two dwellings and other proposed changes are with Babergh.

Yours sincerely,

Kathryn Grandon  
Babergh District Councillor for Hadleigh South