



Coddendam Parish Council

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Electoral Services Team

Mid Suffolk District Council

Sent by Email: cgr@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk

27 October 2025

Dear Sirs

Community Governance Review 2025

In response to Mid -Suffolk District Council's invitation to parishes and towns to submit a community governance request, Coddendam Parish Council (CPC) would like to submit a recommendation that the parish council member seats be reduced from 11 to nine for the following reasons:-

- 1 Since the last election in May 2023, there have been six elected councillors and no candidates for co-option have come forward.
- 2 While there was a brief period, for a few months, in 2022 when all the council seats were filled, this has not been the case during the last five years.
- 3 The parish of Coddendam has an electorate of just over 500. National research guidance suggests that there should be 6-12 seats when the electorate is between 501-2000. As Coddendam is at the bottom of that range, this is consistent with our experience that 11 seats are not easy to fill. Our recommendation is that we retain nine seats so that there remains the opportunity for others to be co-opted or to stand for election in due course while reducing the quorum to a more manageable three seats.
- 4 The current quorum is four members (being one third of 11) and, with six filled seats, it is possible for scheduled meetings to become inquorate last minute due to unforeseen circumstances. It is considered that having a quorum of three would be more practicable.

The parish council is grateful for the opportunity to comment on this review.

Yours faithfully

Maggie Burt

Clerk to Coddendam Parish Council and Proper Officer