

Broadland District Councillor Report for Strumpshaw Parish Council Meeting – 16 July 2024

The Greater Norwich Development Partnership was set up in 2017 to progress the Greater Norwich Local Plan. Now the plan has been adopted the partnership will be continued to co-ordinate joint working on planning and infrastructure funding and provision.

BDC adopted the following policies at Main Council on 24 May 2024:

Domestic Abuse Housing Association (DAHA) Client Policy: BDC has adopted a new Policy for residents experiencing domestic abuse. The council is working towards achieving DAHA accreditation by Autumn 2024 in line with other local authorities in Norfolk. On average 13 cases of Domestic Abuse per month were reported across both BDC and SNC in 2023.

Tenancy Policy: The council is now a registered housing provider and is aiming to support tenants by offering the best service possible.

Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy: The council has a duty under statute to provide accommodation placements for those facing homelessness.

Private Rented Sector Offer Policy: Covering the fair use of Private Rented Sector Offers

Procedure for reviewing homeless decisions: Ensuring decisions are fair, consistent and transparent.

The Postwick Park and Ride has been extended until at least Summer 2024, when a wider review and re-tendering of the whole Park and Ride service will be undertaken. First Bus are in consultation with NCC re providing a service to Broadland Gate in Postwick.

Veolia has launched this year's Sustainability Fund to support people across Broadland to improve biodiversity in their local environments and communities. Veolia's Sustainability Fund is open to not-for-profit organisations, community groups, or individuals in areas where the company delivers waste and street cleansing services for the community. Up to £1,000 in funding is available per project. All applications will be considered, but projects should aim to fulfil at least one of the following criteria: enhancing biodiversity; promoting sustainable behaviours (reduce, reuse, recycle); protecting or preserving resources and the environment by using recycled, reused, or reclaimed materials. The closing date for applications is 30 September 2024.

<https://www.veolia.co.uk/sustainability-fund>

Broadland District Council elected a new Chair, Cllr Adrian Tipple, on 23 May 2024. Councillor Caroline Karimi-Ghovanlou was elected to the post of Vice-Chair.

Councillor Sue Holland was re-elected as Broadland District Council's Leader for a second year, and the new Cabinet team is:

- Councillor Sue Holland, Leader.
- Councillor Natasha Harpley, Deputy Leader and Communities and Housing
- Councillor Steve Riley, Finance
- Councillor Dan Roper, Transformation and Organisational Development
- Councillor Martin Booth, Economic Development
- Councillor Jan Davis, Environmental Excellence
- Councillor Stuart Beadle, Planning

BDC and SNC will be rolling out new Community Employability Projects which are being funded by the government UK Shared Prosperity Fund. This is to support people to overcome barriers to employment and training. Projects relevant to BDC are:

The Mason Trust – for people out of work aged 16-24 yrs

Social Moments – a mobile food trailer to use at community events which hires young people currently out of mainstream education, offering practical work experience for young people aged 16 plus

Aylsham Community Trust – to address barriers to employment through 3 formal qualifications

The Matthew Project – to support NEET individuals in both districts aged 16-24 yrs

Cup OT Peer Worker– training to support those with mental health issues

Action Community Enterprise – to help people out of work/on Universal Credit to transition to the workplace. It will offer 1-1 support, workshops, coaching and financial literacy to residents in Rackheath, Salhouse and possibly other areas.

Housing and Benefits – Tenancy and Money workshops. Referrals will come via the housing team, especially for those struggling to maintain their tenancies.

For more information contact teresa.chippett@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk

Two new Financial Wellbeing co-ordinators will be employed who will be linked to the Help Hub. They will take a holistic approach to assess residents' needs and make links with primary care, Job Centre plus and the employment support centre.

The Town and Parish Council Forum meetings continue to be held online monthly. These meetings are recorded now and will be circulated. The next meeting is on Wednesday 7 August at 2.00 pm and will feature a presentation on Natural Flood Management.

- The following topics were discussed at the Town & Parish Council meeting held on 9 July:
- Annual Play Area Inspections: favourable inspection fees may be arranged through BDC by being added to a Schedule the Council has with ROSPA, who will carry out the work. This is likely to be of interest for parishes paying in excess of £75 for Inspections.
- Bottle Bank Initiative: BDC is introducing a joint working agreement between the District Council and town/parish council on the installation of bottle banks across the districts. The district council organises the operational running of the bank. The town/parish council provides a suitable location for siting and are responsible for the general management of the site. In return the District Council make a yearly payment of £50 per bank to the town/parish councils known as “Adopter Payments”.

- The benefits of the Bottle Bank scheme are:
- Collect a high-quality recyclable material.
- Generate income for the local authority through recycling credits and for the town/parish councils through Adopter agreements.
- Look out for a survey to be circulated to express interest in joining the Bottle Bank scheme.
- Volunteers are being sought to be interviewed for a Town and Parish Councillor recruitment video. Contact Ellla.wilkinson@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk if you are interested.

A Town and Parish Forum Summit meeting will be held on 13 November 9.30 am - 12.30 pm. Please forward any agenda item suggestions to Andy Sexton: andy.sexton@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk

Nominations are now open for the BDC Community at Heart Awards 2024. These are sponsored by Clarion Housing Group and are to celebrate the achievements of residents in Broadland. There are 9 categories this year:

- **Young Achiever Award** - A young person (aged 18 and under) who has made an exceptional contribution to their community.
- **Community Organisation of the Year** - A community organisation who has made a significant impact to the community.
- **Business in the Community Award** - A local business or commercial organisation that has gone above and beyond to support the local community.
- **Volunteer of the Year** - An individual who selflessly devotes their time and energy to the community.
- **Green at Heart Award** - An individual, school or community organisation who has made an extra effort to have a positive impact on the environment.
- **Connecting Communities Award** - An individual, school or community organisation that has gone out of their way to encourage communities to come together and promote inclusivity.
- **Lifetime Achievement Award** - A person who has dedicated over 20 years of their life to the community, volunteering for the benefit of others and deserves special recognition for their efforts and commitment.
- **Healthy and Active Award** - An individual, school or community organisation that has gone above and beyond in facilitating healthy and active lifestyles.

Nominations close on 29 August and the awards will be presented on 17 October. For more information and to nominate go to: <https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/communities/community-heart-awards-2024>

For those who are making funding bids to finance projects in their communities, here are some guidance links:

<https://www.charity-fundraising.org.uk/grant-fundraising-top-bid-writing-tips>
<https://www.norfolkfoundation.com/funding-support/guidance-resources/>

A useful resource is available called the Natural Flood Management Handbook. Link attached

<https://norfolkrivertrust.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/NFM-Handbook-East-Anglia.pdf>

On 6 June Cllr Davis and Cllr Laming attended the 80th commemoration of D-Day flag raising ceremony at the Horizon Centre.

Cllr Laming has put her members Ward Grant of £1000 towards planned improvements for Brundall Memorial Hall which include replacing the current patio doors with bifold doors, removing the post that is in the centre of the room, landscaping the external south facing area immediately outside the Lounge turning it into a seating area which is lacking around the hall. Hopefully this work will be carried out in Summer 2024 should sufficient overall funding be raised.

Enthusiastic residents have recently revived the Buckenham and Hasingham Social Club. Cllr Davis has put his Ward Grant of £1,000 towards improvements of the club hall. The hall needs refurbishment and volunteers have done a great job to date through well-attended working groups and events. The following improvements are planned:

- Flooring in the toilet area
- Repairs to entrance doors
- Improvements to the fire exit door with push bar
- Replacement of a missing window panel.

Cllr Davis and Cllr Laming attended the event to unveil the new village sign in Postwick on 15 June.

BDC have purchased two Zephyr air quality monitors. These will provide the council with real-time, detailed measurements, allowing comparison of air quality in different parts of the district.

Bookings for Tots2Teens Summer sessions are now available. For more information on how to register, book onto sessions, and to see the brochure, follow this link:

<https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/communities/tots-2-teens>

The WH Smith, Post Office, M&S and Costa outlets are no longer in place at Gridserve at Broadland Gate. Cllr Laming spoke to a staff member on 10 July who said that they are expecting a Costa outlet to be reinstated in the next 2 weeks, together with some sort of food retail outlet at a later date.

The Beverley Road Residents Association in Brundall has been awarded a BDC Get it Started Grant to set up a Beverley Community Orchard. They aim to improve the biodiversity and community benefit of shared “amenity land” spaces on Beverley Road, Foster Close, and

Parker Close, by planting wildflower areas, reducing mowing, and planting community orchard trees. They would also like to formalise and support an area where children on the street currently play football without any goalposts. The funds of £300 will go towards trees, topsoil, goalposts and anything left over will be spent of wildflower seeds.

(Submitted by Cllr Jan Davis and Cllr Eleanor Laming on 14/7/24