

Broadland District Councillors Report for Brundall Parish Council Meeting – 22 April 2024

The Greater Norwich Local Plan has now been adopted having been approved by Broadland District Council (BDC), South Norfolk Council (SNC) and Norwich City Council. The plan is a critical document setting the development framework for the Greater Norwich Area up until 2038. We are currently in the 6-week legal challenge period. Following this, final copies of the GNLP with an interactive map will be produced and published on the BDC website.

The BDC Cost of Living programme for 2022/23 has been audited and the findings presented. Several large government grants were being administered to those in need at the time.

A further review of the council's relationship with the main housing providers in the district has been undertaken. Work is underway to improve the service provision where possible.

The Rural Business Builder Grant Programme has been reviewed. Since its launch in October 2022, it has supported over 180 businesses through training, advice and grant provision. 81 grants have been paid out, totalling £341,952 of investment in the district.

Poll cards have been dispatched for the elections on 2 May 2024. In Broadland voting will be for the Norfolk Police and Crime Commissioner election. Residents in Lingwood and Burlingham and Thorpe St Andrew will be able to vote in their Neighbourhood Planning Referendums.

There are new accessibility arrangements in place in polling stations. An online application process is in place for Absent Voting. Limits have been placed on who can handle postal vote packs (political parties and campaigners can no longer handle postal votes). and the number of packs that can be handed in (a person can hand in 5 plus their own). For more information see:

<https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/elections>

There is still some Pride in Place funding available for projects in Broadland following the closure and awards from Round 3 of funding. If you have a project which might be eligible, please contact the Pride in Place Community Grant officer Andy Sexton
andy.sexton@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk

The Councillor training programme and the role of Member Champions has been reviewed.

BDC has approved plans to expand the One Team social prescribing services to cover all of Broadland's GP prescribing services. The cost of this will be borne by external partners and this is a valuable service which helps to promote the health and wellbeing of residents.

BDC has approved new positions in the Economic Growth team to help deliver the council's environmental agenda.

BDC Cabinet 23/4/24) The council has increased its stock of temporary accommodation and has become a Registered Provider of housing. A new company called Broadland Living has

been set up, which should in time provide affordable housing for residents following a bid to the government Local Authority Housing Fund. New housing documents have been created as required including a Tenancy Strategy, Tenancy Policies, Temporary Accommodation policy and a Procedure for conducting Internal Reviews of Homeless Decisions. Updates to the overall housing strategy and main policy have been carried out.

On the 15 April the council became aware of some issues relating to Garden Waste Direct Debit payments. The council is working to rectify this issue and customers who have been affected will be contacted to confirm future payments. For those affected, the issue will not result in the suspension of collections or the removal of the garden waste bin. If you have been affected there is no need to contact the council.

The 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. The Postwick service stops at Norwich Rail Station and Castle Meadow on its route into the city. Buses run every 20 minutes from 7.20 am. Tickets cost £3 for an adult for all day travel, with additional passengers in the group paying £1. Concessions £2. Children under 5 travel for free. Please use and support this service if you can.

Cllr Davis and Cllr Laming attended the BDC Chairman's Civic Reception on 18/4/24.

(Submitted by Cllr Jan Davis and Cllr Eleanor Laming on 19/4/24)