

## Broadland District Councillor Report for Brundall Parish Council Meeting - 19 May 2025

The BDC Climate Change, Environment and Biodiversity Delivery Plan 2025-2028 can now be viewed on the website. The revised and updated version focuses on the council's commitment to achieve its net-zero targets while enhancing biodiversity and upholding the highest standards of environmental excellence. The plan focuses on 6 core areas: Net Zero 2030 Council, Net Zero 2050 Broadland, Protect and Enhance the environment, Waste and Recycling, Biodiversity Nature Recovery and Green Infrastructure, and Empowering Communities.

<https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/climate-change-environment/environmental-strategies-delivery-plans>

On 8 May, Cllr Laming attended the VE Day Flag Raising ceremony at the Horizon Centre, the headquarters of South Norfolk and Broadland District Councils, and also the evening service at Postwick Parish Church which was led by Rev Dave Hanson. On the same day, Cllr Davis chaired a meeting of the Broadland Futures Initiative which brings together representatives of the Environment Agency, Broads Authority, and local councils to consider the management of flooding in the Broads area over the next 100 years. In the afternoon, Cllr Davis joined the VE Day inter-generational event attended by residents and local school pupils held at Cantley Village Hall.

The BDC Overview and Scrutiny committee has produced its Annual Report for the year 2024 to 2025. The committee monitors the performance of the council and holds the cabinet to account. The report can be viewed here:

<https://democracy.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=161&MId=1125&Ver=4>

Housing people remains a priority for Broadland District Council. It is anticipated that a further 20 single units and 15 family units will be required by 2026 to 2027. The council has a large program of work in progress with the housing team to prevent homelessness and to move people out of temporary accommodation and into settled housing more quickly. So far 47 units of temporary accommodation have been acquired by the current administration. The council is recruiting additional staff for each block of additional units of temporary accommodation to ensure that they are well managed.

The Government has now responded to the proposals put forward by councils for reorganising local government in Norfolk. BDC is continuing to work closely with a group of councils including Breckland, Great Yarmouth, King's Lynn and West Norfolk, North Norfolk and Norwich to help shape the future of local services. This group has a shared vision for a three-unitary model for the county. The three-unitary model proposes the establishment of three distinct unitary authorities centred around the historic urban centres of Norwich, Great Yarmouth and King's Lynn. This structure is designed to reflect the functional and geographic significance of these areas as civic and economic hubs, ensuring that local governance is both effective and responsive to the needs of our diverse communities. It is thought that this model, compared to other proposed models, would bring real benefits to local

people, including better public services, stronger local representation and more support for jobs and the economy.

The government response will be examined in detail. Following this, a significant public and stakeholder engagement exercise will be launched to listen to the views of local people to help to refine this proposal into a full business case which needs to be submitted in September 2025.

A Time Management day course is being run on 20 May at Carrowbreck Training Centre, off Drayton Road, Norwich. To book go to:

<https://bookwhen.com/carrowbreckhouse/e/ev-svga-20250520093000>

Cllr Laming attended the VE Day Act of Remembrance at Brundall Memorial Hall on Sunday 11 May led by the Bishop of Thetford and Rev Dave Hanson, and the opening of the new Community Seating Area at Brundall Memorial Hall on the same day.

Over the last 9 months Broadland and South Norfolk District Councils have been working on a Design Code for residential schemes. A Design Code establishes clear design requirements for new developments and covers items such as building height, design and materials, landscaping, parking spaces and bin stores. Once in place as a Supplementary Planning Document, it will be used in the planning process to assess new developments for concepts such as quality, local context and character. BDC is seeking views on the draft Design Code, Character Assessment and Framework. The public consultation is now open until 23 June 2025.

<https://southnorfolkandbroadland.placechangers.co.uk/page>

Cllr Jan Davis and Cllr Jess Royal will be attending a public meeting from 2.15 – 3.15 pm on Monday 19 May at Cantley Primary School to consider a proposed merger of the school and nursery with Freethorpe Community Primary School from September 2025. A public consultation is being run by Norfolk County Council which is open until noon on Monday 16 June.

<https://norfolk.citizenspace.com/childrens-services/cantleyfreethorpecatchment/>

BDC Tots 2 Teens are running activities during the May half term holiday including a sign language session for young people aged 11-16 yrs on 30 May and a Family Fun Day on 31 May. For more information and to book go to:

<https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/t2t>

(Submitted by Cllr Jan Davis and Cllr Eleanor Laming on 18/5/25)