

Broadland District Councillor Report for Brundall Parish Council Meeting – 28 July 2025

1st Brundall Guides have been awarded a BDC Keep it Going Grant of £273.60 towards hall hire costs, and Brundall Memorial Hall has been awarded a Keep it Going Grant of £295 towards consumable costs and room hire fees at the community café.

The Greater Norwich Local Plan (GNLP) has been named Local Plan of the Year at the 2025 Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) East of England Awards. The South Norfolk and Broadland Planning Team were also Highly Commended.

Cllr Laming attended the BDC flag raising for Armed Forces Day at the Horizon Centre on 23 June.

The BDC Business Builder support programme is open to applications for 2025/2026. A second round is opening to expression of interests on 23 July. Funding is available to support business start-ups and existing businesses to invest and grow. There are also Capital grants available of up to £20,000 per case for businesses in rural areas for plans to increase productivity, measures to significantly reduce the carbon footprint and diversifying into new income streams.
<https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/business/broadland-business-builder-programme>

BDC is conducting a survey of businesses to look at the challenges in adopting solar technologies. To take part go to: <https://us18.list-manage.com/survey?u=09ca61a33fa8fe7ea5a4ce134&id=05a5e9ba04&attribution=faalse&e=8b9cca724c>

Under Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation (LGR), significant changes are coming to how council services are run in Norfolk. There are different views on how LGR should look like and Broadland District Council, along with 5 other Norfolk district councils, are running a consultation on their preferred three unitary council option which they believe would best serve the people of Norfolk. The consultation is open now at Future Norfolk: <https://www.futurenorfolk.com/>

BDC is planning to run free Climate Change and Sustainability workshops from September 2025 for Parish and Town Councils and their communities. These would cover a range of topics on taking meaningful climate action and providing access to support and potential grant opportunities. If you have thoughts and ideas on this, please complete this survey by 31 July.
<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=ikQbvZ9SBEqklb1K4febsJsLhb8nFJFJlyZo2SsePehUQUIGUTBRMURZVDY1NEZWUllaUDc2Q1Q5Sy4u&route=shorturl>

For more information contact:

environmentalstrategy@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk

BDC will be hosting the Marriott's Way 10km run this year on Sunday 21 September. The run starts in Aylsham and follows the old railway line to finish in the marketplace at Reepham. Individuals or teams can participate. Local businesses can put teams of 4 forward for the Corporate Challenge. To sign up, visit the website:
<https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/leisure/marriotts-way-10k>

BDC and SNC have received Gold Accreditation from the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) for their exceptional work to support survivors of domestic abuse. The network, with a multi-service approach, is making a difference to vulnerable individuals and families across Norfolk.

The link to the website for advice and information on domestic abuse is here:

<https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/communities/domestic-abuse/what-is-domestic-abuse>

BDC is developing a Biodiversity Strategy 2025-2030 which will build on the Climate Change, Environment and Biodiversity Delivery Plan 2025-2028, to outline how it will achieve its core biodiversity objectives. There are 3 key priorities: Enhancing biodiversity on the land managed by BDC, Supporting biodiversity beyond BDC boundaries, and Inspiring and Influencing wider action.

Nominations are now open for the BDC Design and Enhancement Awards for 2025. The Design Awards are for new houses or developments and the Enhancement Awards are for existing buildings that have been extended, repaired or repurposed. If you would like to nominate any buildings or architectural projects completed within the last 2 years which are of high quality design, use sustainable and sympathetic materials and have a strong relationship with their surroundings, please use the following link. The deadline for submissions is 25 August 2025.

<https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/news/nominations-open-for-exceptional-architecture-in-broadland>

BDC is supporting the Norfolk High Streets Matter programme for which applications are now open. Grants of £1000 - £5000 are available for projects which increase footfall, enhance visitor experience and celebrate local identity. Local businesses, community groups and trader organisations can apply. The deadline for applications is 31 August 2025.

<https://www.newangliagrowthhub.co.uk/love-your-market-town-pride-of-place-funding/>

Norwich is leading a project on becoming an Age-friendly Community, to enable people to age well and live a good later life. At present only Norwich and N Norfolk are represented regionally, but conversations are being had with BDC and SNC to potentially link in with this initiative. For more information see:

<https://www.ageuk.org.uk/norwich/about-us/agefriendlynorwich/>

BDC is reviewing its Statement of Licensing Policy which must be published every 5 years and covers the following licensable activities: retail alcohol sales, the supply of alcohol by or on behalf of a club, provision of regulated entertainment and provision of late-night refreshment. A 6-week public consultation for the revised document has now commenced and ends on 1 September 2025. To view the draft policy and to respond go to:

<https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/licensing/licences/licensing-policies/licensing-act-2003>

Between January 2024 and January 2025 BDC collected 420790 tonnes of food waste. This is a great achievement from residents and ensures that this waste is recycled rather than going to landfill.

Nominations are still open for the BDC Community Awards 2025. These awards celebrate individuals and groups who give their time and energy to their communities. There are 8 nomination categories, the Healthy and Active Award, Young Achiever of the Year, Volunteer of the Year, Connecting Communities, Environmental Champion, Business in the Community, Community Organisation of the Year, Rising Star and Lifetime Achievement. The closing date is 28 August 2025. For more information and to make a nomination go to:
<https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/broadland-community-awards>

BDC Cabinet have agreed to introduce a virtual agent for telephone and website Communications for an initial 12-month pilot scheme. This will be funded using money awarded from the government via Future Councils funding received by BDC in 2023 for these purposes. The service would be available to residents 24 hours a day, every day of the week.

At BDC Main Council on 24 July 2025 the following were approved:

The Quarter 4 2024/2025 Strategic Performance and Risk Report was approved.

The Annual Treasury Review Report for 2024/25 was reviewed and noted. This includes the activity of the Nutrient Mitigation Fund which was set up to fund mitigation projects to enable certain planning applications to go ahead. Capital Funding is provided to applicants on a loan basis to deliver projects with proven benefits. Smaller amounts of revenue grants are also available. To date £10.494m of Capital Loans and £470,000 revenue grant funding has been approved in order to enable over 3000 homes to be developed across the Breckland, Broadland, Norwich, N Norfolk and S Norfolk area.

It was agreed to renew the existing district wide Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) for dog fouling with the addition of limiting dog control by excluding dogs from enclosed play areas for children. The PSPO will be extended for a further three years from the date of expiry in October 2025. The PSPO requires a person in control of a dog to clean up after it when it fouls in a public space and to dispose of the waste in a suitable waste disposal receptacle. There are exemptions for people who have some disabilities. A public consultation on extending the PSPO was held for six weeks which ended on 11 June 2025, and as a result it has been amended to exclude dogs from enclosed children's play areas.

The Custom and Self-build Housing Supplementary Planning Document was formally adopted. This document provides more detail on policies relating to self and custom build housing to supplement the greater Norwich local plan 2024. It also gives wider guidance on submitting a planning application for custom or self-build housing. It will be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications.

The Postwick with Witton Neighbourhood Plan was adopted on condition that the local referendum scheduled for 7 August 2025 results in a positive outcome, in which case the Neighbourhood Plan will become part of the statutory Development Plan.

(Submitted by Cllr Jan Davis and Cllr Eleanor Laming on 28/7/25)