

Broadland District Councillor Report for Brundall Parish Council Meeting - 23 March 2026

Cllr Davis attended a meeting at the end of February at Lingwood Village Hall which gave an update on the current progress of the A47 dualling project and upcoming planned works including the installation of new bridge structures.

Broadland District Council's community Annual Big Litter Pick is now open. Community groups, schools and businesses can take part between now and 31 May. All registered groups will receive £50 for taking part and helping to keep the district clean, and 10 participating groups will have the chance to receive £250 to reinvest in their community. For more details go to:
<https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/rubbish-recycling/keeping-streets-clean/volunteer-litter-pick-area/big-broadland-litter-pick>

Cantley, Limpenhoe and Southwood parish council has made an application to BDC to designate a Neighbourhood area for the purposes of developing a Neighbourhood Plan and this has now been approved.

The BDC Dog Warden Service has received the RSPCA Gold Paw Print Award for their service provision for the fourth consecutive year. This recognises excellence in the stray dog service provided by the council

The BDC Handy Person Service won National Handy Person Service of the Year at the Healthy Housing Awards. The service operates across South Norfolk and Broadland and provides minor repairs, falls prevention equipment, safety fittings and domestic abuse sanctuary scheme support for residents.

On 11 March BDC hosted a Business Breakfast for over 100 business owners. BDC is committed to supporting local enterprises in the district. Since the launch of the Business Builder programme in 2022 it has supported 472 businesses and awarded £2.3m in grants.

A new Let's Go! Visitor economy initiative will launch in Summer 2026. This will showcase beautiful walking routes across the districts and highlight nearby independent businesses to boost visitor numbers and tourism.

13 community led environmental projects across Broadland have been awarded funding through the BDC Future for Nature Fund, with additional support from some Section 106 developer contributions taking the total investment to over £60,000. The fund supports a wide range of initiatives designed to restore natural habitats, capture carbon and improve public access to green spaces, empowering communities to play an active role in protecting and enhancing the district's natural environment.

Congratulations to all those awarded grants in Brundall Ward which include:

Brundall Parish Council - awarded a grant of £5000 to create a pond at the Countryside Park

Cantley Parish Council - awarded a grant of £4700 to restore an existing pond forming part of a circular walking route.

Strumpshaw Parish Council - awarded a grant of £3440 to create a 2km circular walk around Buckenham Woods

Bookings are still open for Tots 2 Teens events in the Easter Holidays. For more information and to book go to:

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

A project to Facilitate Adult Social Care Transformation by Implementing Local Area Coordination was approved by Cabinet on 17 March 2026. This will use funding from Norfolk County Council of £96,000 to employ 2 Full Time Equivalent Local Area Coordinators for 2 years fixed term to serve Aylsham, Thorpe St Andrew and surrounding areas as part of a pilot scheme with a view to wider roll out across Norfolk should it be successful. Local Area Coordinators are producing positive results in improving health outcomes in other parts of the country. They work in neighbourhoods with individuals and families taking a longer-term view to build resilience, reduce isolation and prevent crises. They will co-ordinate work with existing structures and professionals to achieve this.

On 6 April 2026 the Animal Welfare (Primate Licences) (England) Regulations will come into force. This legislation brings in a licensing scheme setting strict rules to ensure that only private keepers who can provide zoo level welfare standards will be able to keep primates. All private primate keepers and people proposing to keep a primate will be required to hold a licence valid for a maximum of three years and undergo reassessment to renew their permission to keep their animals. BDC will be receiving and determining primate licence applications, monitoring and enforcing compliance if needed. To date, the Licensing Team has not been approached by anyone seeking to licence a primate currently in their private ownership or possession.

The Norfolk County Council elections are due to take place on Thursday 7 May. The referendum for the newly revised Strumpshaw Neighbourhood Plan will also take place on that day. BDC has issued guidelines and restrictions on decision making and publicity during the pre-election period. During the pre-election period, the Council must take care to ensure that its resources are not used in a way that could be perceived as supporting any political party or candidate.

The notice of election will be published on 27 March 2026. For more information go to: <https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/council/elections/upcoming-elections/norfolk-county-council-election-7-may-2026>

The deadline for registering to vote is 20 April 2026

To register to vote go to: <https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote>

The Greater Norwich authorities (Broadland District Council, Norwich City Council and South Norfolk Council, working with Norfolk County Council) are reviewing the Greater Norwich Local Plan which was adopted in March 2024. The review is prompted by national planning reform and the government's new method for calculating housing need. In addition, the government has introduced a new plan-making system, which changes the way local plans are prepared. It is expected that the process this time will be faster with the use of digital technology. The Call for Sites where landowners, developers, and other interested parties were invited to submit sites that may be suitable for housing, employment or other uses ends on 23 March 2026.

The achievements of businesses across South Norfolk and Broadland were celebrated on 18 March at the South Norfolk and Broadland Business Awards 2026, held at Norwich City Football Club. The event was sponsored by Birketts LLP and brought together business leaders, entrepreneurs and innovators from across the two districts. To view the list of winners go to:

<https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/news/businesses-score-big-at-2026-awards>

Broadland District Council will open applications for its 2026 Community Grant Scheme (CGS) on 1 April, with £50,000 available to support local community led projects. The scheme provides grants of £1,000 to £15,000 to help deliver substantial initiatives that enhance local facilities or improve residents' quality of life. All applications will be reviewed by the CGS Panel, which will meet in July 2026 to allocate funding. There will also be a further opportunity for groups to apply to the scheme later in the year.

The next Community Links meeting will be held on Thursday 16 April from 4.30 pm to 6.30 pm at the Horizon Business Centre, Norwich NR7 0WF. The meeting will be focusing on promoting positive mental health and emotional well-being in young people, and there will be an opportunity for networking with refreshments. To sign up to attend (free of charge) go to:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/community-links-networking-session-april-2026-tickets-1983266527572?aff=oddttdcreator>

(Submitted by Cllr Jan Davis and Cllr Eleanor Laming on 20/3/26)