

Report from District Councillor Richard Elliott to Brandon Parva, Coston, Runhall and Welbourne Parish Council, 17th July 2019

Since the May elections there has been limited Council business, and this has allowed training for newly elected Members.

Grants

Member Ward grants and other grants are available to local communities to support various community projects. These range from small grants of up to £300 to support a start-up project to much larger grants of between £1000-£15000. The details of these grants are available at South Norfolk Council's website by following the link <https://www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/residents/communities/community-grants> . I am happy to assist in the application process if required.

Help for People in Need

I wanted to make the Council aware of the **South Norfolk Help Hub**. This is an initiative to support people with difficulties to get early help and so avoid small problems becoming unmanageable. The Help Hub is a partnership between organisations that support people in South Norfolk. It can offer practical support, advice and guidance to get you back on track. Help can be sought online at <https://www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/residents/south-norfolk-help-hub> or by phone on 01508 533933. Parish Councils can often be the eyes and ears of the community in identifying people who are in need.

Greater Norwich Local Plan

Preparations are currently under way to consult on the draft Greater Norwich Local Plan, which will be decided by the Greater Norwich Development Partnership Board with representation from South Norfolk Council, Norwich City Council, Broadland District Council and Norfolk County Council. This document will be a key driver in shaping the future of our area and determining where new homes and jobs will go. It will help drive growth and promote our economy as well as protect the best of our existing assets. It will guide decisions that will be relevant to every ward in Broadland and South Norfolk. The consultation is planned to start in September and further information about the Greater Norwich Development Partnership can be found at <http://www.greaternorwichgrowth.org.uk/planning/greater-norwich-local-plan/> .

Your Housing in Your Hands – Developing Community Land Trusts

Following a very successful run of community-led planning training workshops for parish and town councils between June 2018 and March 2019, Broadland District Council and South Norfolk Council have organised a conference focusing on the concept of Community Land Trusts (CLTs). 'Your Housing in Your Hands – developing Community Land Trusts to meet local housing needs' is a free conference for parish and town councils in Broadland and South Norfolk, taking place on Thursday July 18th, 2019 at The Space in Norwich.

A CLT offers a way for a community to develop and manage its own homes for local people, ensuring they remain affordable in perpetuity. If local people are having to move out of the community due to the high prices of the property market or due to a lack of housing that's suitable for their needs then a CLT is one way in which the community can take steps to address the problem.

There are several emerging and established CLTs around Norfolk, the eastern region and the rest of the country, with a range of professional and financial support opportunities currently available. This event will provide a comprehensive introduction to a concept that has been gaining a great deal of momentum nationally, with a range of guest speakers involved in the development of CLTs at national, regional and local levels.

CPRE Rural Housing Conference

CPRE Norfolk is running an event looking at how much-needed affordable housing can be delivered in Norfolk's rural communities, with the event taking place at the Memorial Hall, Dereham, on Friday 6th September from 9.30am - 1.45pm. I can provide further details of the event and a booking form if required.

Community Pub of the Year

South Norfolk Council launched the Community Pub of the Year competition on 30 June 2019 at South Norfolk on Show. Voting will be open until 8 September 2019.

There are four categories in this year's competition, they are as follows:

- **Outstanding Community Focus:** This is the pub whose staff go over and above what is expected from them within the community.
- **Best Customer Service:** This is the pub where everybody is always happy to see you. Staff go the extra mile in ensuring customers have the best time in their pub.
- **Most Family-Friendly:** This is the pub that welcomes all, from the day they are born. It is ready for all ages, with room for the buggy, water for the dogs and quieter areas for all to chat.
- **Tastiest Food and Drink:** This is the pub you always go to for its food or drink. It has exactly what you want, when you want it.

There are three methods of voting this year; via Instagram, Facebook and online, via a web form. The Award ceremony will take place on 7 October 2019 at the Wheatacre White Lion, which is the winner of last year's Community Pub of the Year. I can provide a poster to advertise if required.

Please contact me or Julie Ringer in the Communities team if you have any questions, by email at jringer@s-norfolk.gov.uk or by telephone on 01508 533642.

Ward Issues

I am thinking about the best way of ensuring I have a good understanding of issues or concerns within the Wicklewood Ward. I am already learning much by attending Parish Council meetings and no doubt I will find other ways of engaging with constituents and learning more about the things that may concern local people or indeed ideas about ways to improve Council services. My telephone contact number is 07733002897 or email relliott@s-norfolk.gov.uk.

17th July 2019

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