Broadland District Councillors Report for Postwick with Witton Parish Council Meeting - 5 September 2024

Cabinet has approved the Productivity Plan for BDC which will be submitted to the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. This looks at how the council has transformed the way it delivers goods and services, how it uses technology, and how it can make efficiency savings and work with central government. The plan will be published on the BDC website. The draft plan can be viewed here under item 11 of the Cabinet Agenda 16 July 2024
https://democracy.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=143&MId=907&Ver=4

Cllr Laming attended a Community Links Network Meeting on 15 July. This team are part of the Help Hub and aim to bring together community groups and provide them with resources. They have compiled a new Community Toolkit and will be hosting quarterly meetings. All Community Group representatives in the District are welcome to get involved. The toolkit can be accessed on the website on the following link
https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/downloads/download/1206/toolkit-for-community-groups

BDC also runs a Community Links Network (details are in the toolkit) which produce a regular electronic newsletter. To sign up, email the Communities team on the address on page 3 of the Toolkit. If you would like more information please contact: Lauren Harris Community Capacity Officer 01508 533936 lauren.harris@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk

The BDC Enhancement Awards scheme was open for nominations over the Summer. These awards recognise and celebrate projects that have significantly improved existing buildings or brought buildings back to life, while enhancing Broadland's built environment and preserving the unique character of the district. By highlighting exceptional projects, the Council aims to raise design standards in the area. Judging will take place in September, with winners invited to an awards evening in October at the Horizon Business Centre.

Cllr Laming attended the Pride Flag Raising Monday 22 July at 11.00 at the Horizon Centre.

Each local authority in England and Wales is required to have a scheme for the allocation of social housing. The Housing Allocations Policy was agreed at Main Council on 25 July 2024 following consultation and legislative changes. The number of households on the BDC housing list has increased to over 1100. This is more than double the number waiting 5 years or so ago and the policy changes will help the council to respond more efficiently to those in need.

The Norfolk Green Infrastructure and Recreational Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy (GIRAMS) is to ensure the council meets his legal duty under the conservation of habitats and species regulations 2017. GIRAMS has been prepared by the 8 Local Planning Authorities of Norfolk in conjunction with Norfolk County Council. Its purpose is to deliver

the mitigation necessary to avoid adverse effects on internationally designated sites from the impacts of residential development that is forecast to be delivered across Norfolk until 2038. A Norfolk wide Recreational Impact Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy (RAMS) board has now been set up to oversee the projects to be delivered which will be funded from the tariff collected from new development.

Cllr Laming attended the Yare Valley Churches Institution service for the Rev David Hanson at St Laurence Church, Brundall led by the Bishop of Thetford, Ian Bishop.

A Carbon Literacy Training Course has been launched in Broadland and is specifically designed for Town and Parish Councillors and community groups. The intention is to see how this pilot is received in Broadland, with the possibility of rolling out to South Norfolk. It is an Accredited (Carbon Literacy Trust) bespoke Course which covers the science and effects of climate change on a national and local scale and will have an in-depth section on actions that local groups can take including case studies and funding options.
It is a free 7-hour course with lunch/refreshments provided. There are 3 sessions available for a maximum of 3 people from each organisation. These are on:
Tuesday 24th September - full day at the Horizon Centre, Broadland District Council office
Saturday 19th October full day at Horsford Village Hall
2 evenings on Monday 4th November and Monday 11th November – need to attend both – at the Diamond Centre in Sprowston.
If you are interested and would like to book places please contact BDC on environmentalstrategy@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk
For more information see: Home - The Carbon Literacy Project

If your council is interested in having a Bottle Bank as part of a joint working agreement with Broadland District Council, please complete the following survey: https://forms.office.com/e/6Y85JMvkF7.

A new trod/footpath has been built along part of Strumpshaw Road to improve the safety of pedestrians in the village.

Broadland District Council has a new information section on its website about Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects such as major highway schemes, electricity projects and offshore windfarms. There is also an interactive map.
https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/nationally-significant-infrastructure-projects

The Solar Together Scheme run in conjunction with Broadland District Council is open for registrations. This is a group buying scheme for solar PV and battery storage systems
https://solartogether.co.uk/broadland/home

Applications for the Veolia Sustainability Fund are still open. A successful project will provide evidence of one or more of the following: Enhancing biodiversity, promoting sustainable waste behaviours (reduce, reuse and/or recycle), Protecting or preserving resources and the environment, Its use of recycled, reused or reclaimed materials. The closing date is 30 September 2024. https://www.veolia.co.uk/sustainability-fund

BDC will be producing a Design Code to shape the requirements for future development in the district.

BDC has plans for a new visitor centre and café at Broadland Country Park. Residents are invited to take part in a consultation on the proposed plans from 2:00pm - 4:30pm on Friday 6 September, at Broadland Country Park. There will be an opportunity to view the plans in detail, explore a virtual 3D model of the centre and speak to the project team. https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/broadland-country-park-1/visitor-centre-consultation

(Submitted by Cllr Jan Davis and Cllr Eleanor Laming on 2/9/24)