Broadland District Councillors Report for Postwick with Witton Parish Council Meeting - 7 November 2024

Cllr Davis and Cllr Laming attended the Norfolk Landscapes Conference and Exhibition at the Norfolk Showground on 2/10/24.

Cllr Davis and Cllr Laming attended the Norwich Society Conference on Adapting our City for Climate Change, at the Forum on 3/10/24.

Cllr Laming attended the Brundall Memorial Hall Community Café on 25 September and 23 October and spoke to members of the hall committee about their project for improvements to the hall. On 14/10/24 the BDC Community Grant Scheme Panel awarded £9000 to Brundall Memorial Hall for Phase 2 of the project to improve the outdoor hall facilities for residents.

We have both submitted responses to several recent consultations including the Norwich Western Link planning application, the Norfolk County Council Rail Consultation 2024, the government's National Planning Policy Framework Consultation and the Norfolk County Council Shaping Norfolk's Libraries consultation.

BDC has opened a new round of the Winter Pressures Grant for 2024/2025. The grant is to aid communities to support themselves with a focus on supporting the more vulnerable residents in their local area. Groups can apply for up to £500 which can be spent on resources that enable them to hold community cafe's, create Christmas hampers or supply those in need with warm clothing. We welcome innovative ideas and projects that link in with the Help Hub and other local support services. For more information and to apply go to:
https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/winter-pressures-grant

Brundall Memorial Hall has already applied for a Winter Pressures Grant from BDC and have been awarded £276.25 towards the running of the community café which provides a warm space for residents.

Carbon Literacy Courses are available specifically designed for Town and Parish Councillors and community groups. Feedback from attendees on the first BDC course has been very good. The course is accredited (Carbon Literacy Trust) and 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 2 sessions available for a maximum of 3 people from each organisation. These are on:

Wednesday 6 November: 9.00 am - 4.30 pm at Horsford Village Hall
Wednesday 27 November 9.00 am - 4.30 pm full day at the Horizon Centre, Broadland Business Park

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
and the promotional video for the training is here: Carbon Literacy Training for Town and Parish council

The BDC and SNC Community Link Network brings together residents living in the two districts who serve as community leaders, volunteers, or people who are affiliated with voluntary groups and organisations. This is to encourage collaboration, provide support and share information. Membership is open to anyone who is part of a voluntary, community, or social enterprise sector including a wide range of groups, from traditional organisations like Girl Guides and Rotary Clubs to newer initiatives like Community Fridges and Men's Sheds. Residents who are interested in learning more about opportunities to help in the voluntary sector and want to explore ways to get involved are also welcome to join.
To find out more about the network please call 01603 430431 or
email: communities@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk

BDC is considering introducing a new parking management plan for council owned car parks, with the possible introduction of paid parking in Reepham and Aylsham, with a free first hour of parking. The County Council Norfolk Parking Partnership (NPP) manages civil parking enforcement in the district, and BDC operates off street parking provision. BDC currently contributes £10,000 per year to the NPP. This is likely to increase, and so are car park maintenance costs over the next 10 years.

BDC provides support and advice for new and growing businesses in the district. If you are associated with a business and would like to receive business news and information from the council, subscribe to the newsletter here:
https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/business/starting-new-business

The BDC Emergency Planning department has asked communities to consider preparing for winter by considering the risks and reviewing the current plans and networks in place. BDC is part of the Norfolk Resilience Forum. For more information on developing a plan, visit the website or contact Simon.Faraday-Drake@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk
https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/communities/community-resilience

On 16/10/24 Cllr Laming attended the Norfolk and Waveney Integrated Care System Conference at the Kings Centre which considered health and social care provision in the area.

At the BDC Main Council meeting on 17/10/24:

The council adopted a Revised Complaints Policy
The Reedham Neighbourhood Plan was adopted

It was agreed that Broadland Growth Limited (BGL)will be retained by BDC as a wholly owned company. BGL has completed 2 small housing developments in the past, one at Carrowbreck Meadow (14 homes) and one in Great Plumstead (22 homes)
The Annual Report of the Audit Committee (2023/24) was approved

A motion was passed to sign up to the Youth Advisory Board Pledge to "provide accessible, inclusive, safe play environments that challenge, excite, stimulate and promote the interaction of all young people of all abilities", noting that full compliance with the pledge will require a staged implementation and may be restricted due to resources.
https://www.map.uk.net/here-you/changing-world/everyone-has-right-play

A motion was passed to oppose the government's proposal to remove the Winter Fuel Payment from pensioners who do not claim Pension Credit or are on other benefits recognising the disproportionate impact this will have on our vulnerable residents, particularly those in rural communities like Broadland, and to and write to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, to ask that Winter Fuel Payments are reinstated to protect vulnerable pensioners.

A Veolia recycling event will be held in the Brundall Memorial Hall car park on Wednesday 13 November between 10.00 am and 2.00 pm. Residents will be able to drop off unwanted household small electrical and electronic devices and textiles (clothes, shoes, bed linen, curtains and towels) for recycling.

Nominations are now open for the BDC Business Awards, sponsored by Birketts. Businesses can nominate themselves in any one of 10 categories which include: Business Growth, Business Innovation, Employer of the Year, Environmental Impact, Excellence in Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering, Excellence in Insurance, Financial and Professional Services, Food and Drink Producer of the Year, New Business, Small Business of the Year and Tourism Business of the Year. Nominations close on 13/12/24. Winners will be announced on 19/3/24. Residents are also invited to vote for their favourite Retailer of the Year and Pub of the Year. By voting they will automatically be entered into a prize draw to have a chance of winning £100 of shopping and pub vouchers.
https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/business/broadland-and-south-norfolk-business-awards

Cllr Laming attended the BDC Community at Heart Awards evening on 24 October 2024 and learned about some truly inspirational people and projects who go above and beyond to support others. Elizabeth Cameron from Strumpshaw won the Lifetime Achievement Award for 50 years of community work - huge congratulations! and there were amazing nominees and winners from all across the district. The event was sponsored and supported by Clarion Housing, Clarion Futures, Veolia, HSBC, Richard Wills Training Associates, Loads4Less, McKibbin Management Consultants, Citrus Security Shredding and Royal Norwich Golf Club.

https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/communities/community-heart-awards-2024

Cllr Davis and Cllr Laming attended the official opening of the Brundall Sports Hub on 26 October which has a state of the art 3G pitch. Brundall Parish Council and other partner organisations put in a huge amount of work to reach this stage and it was funded by the Greater Norwich Growth Board and the Premier League Football Foundation.

https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/news/brundall-sports-hub-opening-ceremony

(Submitted by Cllr Jan Davis and Cllr Eleanor Laming on 4/11/24)