

# Stoke Holy Cross District Councillor Report 11<sup>th</sup> April 2024

## Grants

Applications for member ward grants for the 24/25 period reopen on 6<sup>th</sup> May. Applications for larger Communities Action Fund grants (£1,000 to £15,000) also open on that day. We are discussing a material application for Stoke Holy Cross with the Parish Council.

## Leadership of South Norfolk Council

Following his elevation to the peerage, Lord Fuller has resigned as leader of the Conservative Group of Councillors and has announced that he will stand down as Leader of the Council. Cllr. Elmer has been elected leader of the Conservative Group and is expected to be elected leader at the May Council meeting.

## Greater Norwich Local Plan

The plan has now been adopted by all parties and is now influencing planning decisions. GNLP Policy 7.5 is expected to lead to an increase in small scale self-build and custom build applications (up to 3 units) within or close to the edge of settlement boundaries. Applications would still have to meet other planning policies.

## Food Waste Collection

The Council is required to introduce a weekly food waste collection service by end March 2026. Some areas may start before this date. In Broadland a food collection service operates already; South Norfolk expects to follow a similar operating model: homes receive a small caddy for use in the home and a larger bin put outside for collection.

While some Government funding is being provided, this will not cover all set up and operating costs and there are expected to be financial implications for the Council. Options and costs for the service are being developed; there may be implications for development of the Ketteringham site.

## Fly Tipping

At the recent Cleaner, Safer Environment committee meeting, it was stated that there were 780 reported fly tips in South Norfolk in 2023. Cllr Ian Spratt suggested consideration be given to the introduction of Community Skips placed close to identified 'hotspots' to encourage the public to responsibly dispose of larger waste items. This system has worked in London Boroughs. Feedback on the idea would be welcome.

## Long Stratton by-pass

Work on the by-pass has commenced.

## Flooding on B1113

District Councillors are still active in attempting to resolve this, but to date we have still had no response from either County Councillor Daniel Elmer or Graham Plant, cabinet lead for Highways, Infrastructure and Transport. An article was published in the EDP on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March following an interview with Ian Spratt, which highlighted your District Councillors concerns about the lack of response or action received so far. Speaking to other parish councils also concerned with this it has been suggested that a more coordinated approach should be considered by all parishes affected. Orsted appears to be taking measures to mitigate the flooding and have arranging a meeting at Swardeston Village Hall on 11<sup>th</sup> April to discuss this further.

## South Norfolk Community Awards

Nominations for Community Awards are now open until 19<sup>th</sup> May 2024,

[South Norfolk Community Awards 2024 – Broadland and South Norfolk \(southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk\)](https://southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk)

## Pride in Place Awards

The third and final round of awards has now closed. Over the 3 rounds over £1 million has been allocated to communities across Broadland and South Norfolk. Consideration is now turning to a possible replacement scheme.

### **‘Norwich to Tilbury’ Update**

The formal consultation for this project opened on 10<sup>th</sup> April and closes on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June. Full information can be found on the [National Grid’s consultation website](#).

There are three consultation events in Norfolk:

Ashwellthorpe, Thorpe Hall	Thursday	9 May 1-6pm
Tibenham, Community Hall	Friday	10 May 1-6pm
Diss, Football Club	Wednesday	15 May 1-6 pm

There are also a series of on-line webinars (sign up [here](#) ) at 6pm in the evening. Those on 17 April, 29 May and 12 June (all Wednesdays) are most relevant to people living locally.

Finally, all the documents can be inspected at Long Stratton Library and Norwich Library, or on the consultation website.

There are few changes to the 2023 consultation, but the following may be of interest:

- 6 pylons immediately to the South of the Norwich substation have been moved westwards to higher ground, increasing the visibility of the 50m high pylons but avoiding the proposed battery storage facility near the substation; and
- an alternative to pylons for the Waveney Valley is being consulted upon to mitigate the landscape, heritage and recreational amenity effects of the pylons. This would involve underground cabling for 2km and new CSE compounds at either end of the underground section to connect to the pylons.

The consultation does not consider the viable alternative of underground HVDC cables, which was considered in the recent ESO Report.

PylonsEastAnglia are continuing to develop their campaign against the pylon proposals and have put together some high-level advice for Parish Council’s wishing to object to the Norwich Tilbury proposal. For further information visit <https://pylonseastanglia.co.uk/actions> .

**Bob McClenning, Ian Spratt & Jim Webber**

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