Stoke Holy Cross Parish Council – 18 October 2023

District Councillor Report

Grants

At the September Town & Parish forum, Andy Sexton, SNC Pride in Place Relationship Manager, gave a presentation on Pride in Place grants. Grant applications for round three will open in November. There is a total of £379,386.00 available. Further details can be found on the South Norfolk Council (SNC) website.

Members Ward Grants of up to £1,000 are available for community organisations needing a small amount of financial help. Any organisation interested should approach me or one of my colleagues.

Alderman Vivienne Clifford-Jackson

Much loved former councillor Vivienne Clifford-Jackson was made an Alderman of South Norfolk at a ceremony on Monday 15 October. She represented Mulbarton for many years and represented Mulbarton and Stoke Holy Cross between 2019 and 2022. She is a former leader of SNC.

Greater Norwich Plan – Village Clusters

SNC will be re-consulting on the housing allocations for the village clusters – probably starting before Xmas for an extended 8 week period. New allocations are needed as one site in the district is inappropriate for development and another has reduced housing capacity. There could be implications for local villages.

Sale of Long Stratton Building

The application by Long Stratton Town Council to secure 'Assets of Community Value' status on South Norfolk House has been unsuccessful. The sale of South Norfolk House will be discussed at an extraordinary meeting planned for the 6th November.

Nutrient Neutrality

The plans to relax these rules were turned down by the House of Lords. However Norfolk Environmental Credits (the company formed by local councils) has entered into an arrangement with a local farmer to reduce nutrient discharges from livestock and, as a result, expects to soon start selling Environmental Credits to local developers, allowing more new housebuilding in the Yare catchment area.

Long Stratton Bypass

SNC has agreed to borrow £4.5 million to help fund the new bypass. Repayments are ultimately covered by payments from the landowner/promoter and secured against the land value.

'Norwich to Tilbury' Update

On 11 September, Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex county councils jointly wrote to National Grid expressing concerns about the scheme. The council leaders said the scheme would have a significant impact on landscapes and local communities, as well as claiming an offshore solution "has not been sufficiently investigated". They also called for a "more participatory approach to public consultation".

Jim Webber 18 October 2023

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