

Dc Report July

From NNDC

'Democratic Services

The Town & Parish Council Forum will restart in the autumn, This is an opportunity for T&PCllrs and clerks to engage with NNDC officers.

Coast

NNDC will be working with local communities, including Weybourne, to look at ways to better plan for and adapt to coastal erosion. Topics include how/if to transition housing, local facilities, housing inland.

Leisure

Holt Country Park, Pretty Corner and Sadlers Woods have again been awarded Green Flag status which means they meet requirements such as conservation of biodiversity, environmental management and be easily accessed. Cromer, East Runton, Mundesley, Sea Palling, Sheringham and West Runton beaches have all been awarded Blue Flag status which reflects good environmental management and safety standards. There are only 70 Blue Flag sea beaches in England.

Planning

The government wants to combine district and county councils to increase efficiency and save money. Proposals from the current 7 District Norfolk Councils and the County Council are due to government by the end of September and a decision expected early 26. There is a consultation running till 1st August on the NNDC website

<https://www.futurenorfolk.com/have-your-say>

The new Local Plan will be going out again for public consultation for six weeks in August-September. The additional site allocation to the west of Langham Road in Blakeney is still being put forward, as is Weybourne as a small growth village. This consultation will be the final opportunity to have a say on Planning Policy in North Norfolk for the foreseeable future, so I encourage you to participate.

There will no longer be funding for the development of Neighbourhood Plans which is unfortunate.

Benefits

Don't forget we have just over £100k to help residents with tenancies and homelessness. Do get in touch if this money would be helpful.

There are 2123 households on the housing list: 22% have the most urgent need. Homelessness is still a problem with 46 accepted as homeless April to June. The majority move into social housing.

There were 59 households in temporary accommodation as of June 30th. NNDC has 27 units of temporary accommodation and is purchasing 6 more as they are far more acceptable than nightly bed and breakfast. £255k has been spent on housing adaptations to improve accessibility of homes. Typical works are adaptations to showers, widening of doorways for a wheelchair or the installation of a stairlift. There will be further funding for insulation, low carbon heating and solar panels for qualifying households. If you have any questions regarding benefits or housing, please do get in touch.

Environment and waste

Food waste collection will start autumn 2026, depending on the delivery of the new food waste vehicles.

There appears to have been an uptick in missed bin collections- please contact me if you are having any issues.

Finance

The final outturn for 24-25 is a £622k surplus. This change from the previously predicted loss is due to improved income, and reduced employee and supplies and services budgets.

A small grants scheme has been established this summer for street and town centre support, 'North Norfolk High streets Matter'. Fakenham is one of the recipients.

There is a consultation on street trading.'

Anglian Water

Sewage overflows in our area in 2025 to date are only 1.5 hrs and only in Melton. Additional phosphorous removal schemes to improve water quality will be installed at treatment centres on chalk streams, including Langham. Additional nitrogen removal is being added in certain treatment works- I think the closest is Briston. Water pressure is a problem in some places. This needs to be reported to AW on a case-by-case basis so they can investigate and amend. The contact number is 0800771881.

Digital switchover

By January 2027 your current landline phone calls will be made digitally over the broadband network instead of the old copper lines. Unlike landlines, digital phone calls won't work in a power cut (whilst mobiles do). If you want to keep your landline just as it is that is possible but you have to let BT know on 08001234150 as soon as possible to get the help you need. Also, if you don't have a mobile for power cuts, need support with a Telecare device or would like some advice on how to deal with this switchover, please do contact BT or get in touch with me.

GP out of hours provision at Fakenham

I am hoping to meet with the OOH provider to ascertain why there seems no weekend out of hours cover in Fakenham. At the moment the closest OOH base is in North Walsham which is a long drive if you're poorly.