

Report – December 2015

Vincent FitzPatrick, NNDC Local Member for Priory Ward

Planning

NNDC have been running a series of Planning workshops – in Wells, Bodham and Neatishead – for Town and Parish Councillors. My plans to attend the Wells workshop were derailed by a late running train. Instead, I attended the workshop at Bodham and found the event to be very educational and informative. The Parish Councillors I spoke with found the event to be very useful and thought that it would help them will to review future planning applications.

Wells seems to be ablaze with new developments ranging from extensions to more sizeable developments and I have consulted with many of ward constituents on a number of planning applications and followed up these discussions with the case officers. The applications include Quayside Court, Sunnyside Cottage on the Buttlands and the former grain store / coal yard on Maryland.

Shared Services

NNDC are now sharing, on an interim basis, the Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer with Great Yarmouth Borough Council – part of our irritative to reduce costs but to maintain from line services at their current levels.

Sky Lanterns

NNDC have banned to release of sky lanterns and the mass release of balloons from council owned or controlled land or events organised or controlled by the council. This supports the initiative of the Marine Conservation Society and the NFU. (See <http://bit.ly/1jKyL5e> and <http://bit.ly/1vI5Gln>)

Information and Advice Service

From 1st January 2016, Information and Advices Services in North Norfolk will be provided by Mid Norfolk Citizens Advice in partnership with Norfolk Citizens Advice. This will result in an enhanced and increased information and advice services being available in more towns and villages across North Norfolk. This will see an increase in the provision of face-to-face advice services in all seven market towns in North Norfolk. Additionally, two self help kiosks will be located in Fakenham and Cromer. There will also be telephone advice and an improved interactive website.

Wheelie Bin Collections 2016

Delivery of new waste and recycling calendars for the next 12 months is under way – you will find yours hung on your bin on the normal collection day. The new calendars (from December 2015 through to November 2016) have been redesigned to make the recycling and waste collection dates clearer – each calendar is specific to your normal bin collection day.

More information is available in the NNDC website (www.northnorfolk.org/bincollection/)

An appeal – please rinse out your food and drink containers before placing them into your green bin.

Enterprise Zones

The Chancellor, George Osborne announced in his recent spending review the creation of 10 Enterprise Zones in the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership area for Norfolk and Suffolk. As a result of a lot of effort by NNDC, two of the 10 are in North Norfolk – Egmere Business Zone and Scottow Enterprise Park

Egmere Business Zone – south of Wells – has a focus on supporting business connected with the offshore energy sector.

Scottow Enterprise Park – on the site of former RAF Coltishall – has a focus working with business in low-carbon and other innovative technologies.

The aim of these Enterprise Zones is to attract pioneer businesses to North Norfolk and hence bring high value jobs into our economy – a key priority for NNDC.

Free Christmas Parking

To support North Norfolk businesses and traders, Parking in North Norfolk District Council's car parks will be free over the weekend before Christmas (19 and 20 December).

Father Christmas Woodland Trail

Children can get into the festive spirit with a special festive Father Christmas woodland trail – organised by NNDC's Countryside Rangers – which will be running at Bacton Woods and Holt Country Park. Children will have the opportunity to meet Father Christmas and two of his sleigh pulling reindeer crew

Bacton Woods, Sunday 13 December from 10am to 1pm

Holt Country Park, Saturday 19 and Sunday 20 December from 10am to 1pm

No booking required – cost £3 per child

Note: The above is my personal report and is not an official report or statement from NNDC.