

County Council News  
County Councillor Dr Marie Strong

Hopkins Homes Development:

As promised by Hopkins Homes the three-way traffic lighting system leading to the Dry Road (B1105) was removed in time for the early May Bank Holiday and the new path leading to Burnt Street completed. The path is one of the items of mitigation to be carried out by Hopkins Homes in agreement with the Town Council. The detailed designs for these works were confirmed today and the complete list of works follows:

- Extension of the 30mph speed limit on Two Furlong Hill to the south of the site access
- Construction of a footpath on Two Furlong Hill from the site access to the existing footpath at the junction with Burnt Street
- Provision of a 20mph speed limit on Burnt Street/Church Street (west of Polka Road), extending into Market Lane and Waveney Close
- A part- time 20mph speed limit on Polka Road adjacent to the primary school
- Extension and minor widening of existing footpath on Church Street up to pedestrian access into the church
- Provision of a build out of the eastern bellmouth at the Market Lane / Burnt Street junction

Northfield Lane:

Users, drivers, cyclists and walkers, have made a strong case as to the dangers of Northfield Lane in its present condition and have pressed that the work be carried out as soon as possible. Normally, apart from finding the funding\*, there would be a 12 week lead up to any work being carried. On grounds of safety the work has been accelerated in terms of both funding, staffing and road closure. All necessary permissions have been granted to bring the project forward and carry out the work during half term week. It is only on grounds of safety that the work is being fitted in - it would be somewhat difficult to say it is not that dangerous and we could wait. Apart from getting the work carried out so much earlier than would have occurred we can avoid diverting transport for school children. (\*Because of the condition of the road but also because of the various types of previous repair work carried out the specialist engineer decided the best solution would be to plane out and carry out a hot rolled asphalt treatment – which is a more expensive operation than previously planned.)

Wells next the Sea as a Dementia Friendly Community:

There was an excellent turn out at the launch of Wells as a Dementia Friendly Community – it looked as though every organisation in the town were present. Also there was an excellent response from the representatives of these organisations to take up the essential – and free - training. No one will be surprised to learn that the Community Hospital, Heritage House Day Care Centre and the Doctor's surgery are on board. But in addition present were representatives of the library, post office, town council, guides, primary and high schools, police, Holkham estate and harbour office. (Forgive me for missing anyone out.) How good would it be for anyone approaching these organisations to be assured that they or their family and friends will be given the care they need and deserve? To walk down Staithe Street and see each shop bearing the sign that they are dementia friendly?

To announce that an organisation or a shop is dementia friendly it is essential to take part in the training. For anyone unable to get to the initial sessions please ring Joanne Mountjoy-Dixon (Dementia Lead for Age UK Norfolk 01603 785 233) and Jo will liaise with the Wells Steering Committee and move matters forward for hopefully a further session of free training.