

## **REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR, PETER TERRINGTON,**

**1<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2014:**

### **BIG SOCIETY FUND AND ENABLING FUND:**

16th February deadline for applications to be received for consideration by Panel on 9th March 2015

**COASTAL FOOTPATH & ACCESS TO COUNTRYSIDE:** I met with Russell Wilson (Senior Trails Officer, NCC) and David Hissey (Norfolk Local Access Forum) to discuss the next stage of the route for the Norfolk Coast Path, and ways to increase access to the countryside in North Norfolk.

### **LATEST NEWS RELEASES:**

**LINK TO NNDC WEBSITE:**

**[HTTP://WWW.NORTHNORFOLK.ORG/COUNCIL/NEWS.ASP](http://www.northnorfolk.org/council/news.asp)**

**FULL COUNCIL NOVEMBER:** Cllr Russell Wright has resigned from the Conservative Group and has yet not been replaced as Portfolio Holder for Business Enterprise & Economic Development; Tourism and Inward Energy Investment. The half yearly Treasury management report was approved. A motion was passed, expanding the Constitution Working Party and requiring it to examine existing structures in order to make The Council more open, democratic and accountable, and to consider alternative models of governance.

### **OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY MEETING, NOVEMBER:**

The Committee received reports from Norfolk CAB and Mid-Norfolk CAB. MR WOGAN, of Citizen Watch gave a three address which was very critical of Norfolk CAB.

**The Budget Monitoring Report, Treasury Management, Half Yearly Report and The Second Quarter Managing Performance Report** were presented.

**A Leisure Services Overview** Report was presented. Funding is a challenge but the new Sports England funded project "Sports Clubs and Hubs" offers opportunities to promote participation, it is not planned to roll out the project, in the West of the District, until 2016.

An **Environmental Health Update** was presented. I took the opportunity to raise issues re. Civil Contingency and flood risk in Wells. I was also given an assurance that the Environmental Health Team would investigate the need for policy regarding tables and chairs etc, on the highway.

**CABINET BUSINESS, DECEMBER:** The Cabinet meeting has been postponed until 8<sup>th</sup> December. It is recommended to cabinet that:

Cabinet agree and recommend to Council the new fees and charges from 1 April 2015.

Cabinet recommends to Council that the North Norfolk Housing Incentive Scheme is extended until the 31st December 2015.

1. That Cabinet notes the progress made to date by the Enforcement Board.
2. That the funding for legal support for the enforcement board is extended to 2015/16.

That the Council does not proceed with the relocation of the weekly market from The Meadow Car Park to a location within Cromer town centre.

### **WELLS MATTERS:**

**CO-OP RETAIL STORE, POLKA RD, WELLS:** Re conditions 6&7 of planning consent: to establish local supply chains and promote businesses, in and around Wells. Following my meeting with the manager, I have asked him to follow up with his management, to ensure the agreed scheme for promoting the Town Centre is fully implemented.

**PROPOSED FILLING STATION, POLKA RD, WELLS:** I spoke with Paul McSorley (Lindum) re. current situation. Lindum are still committed to finding an operator for the proposed filling station.

**ALTERNATIVE LORRY/COACH PARK:** I understand that a meeting has been arranged with WTC, NNDC and Holkham Estate.

**FUTURE OF BEACH RD. TOILETS:** No further information.

### **ENFORCEMENT BOARD UPDATE:**

**CLARENCE HOUSE:** Planning application received

**MARYLAND INDUSTRIAL ESTATE:** No further action at present.

**OLD GRAIN STORE:** A planning application was submitted for this site, but has been withdrawn.

**Gifts Galore site:** This site is now under consideration by the Board.

**DECEMBER TIDAL SURGE:** I am concerned that properties on the Wells Seafront and in the East End are very vulnerable to another tidal surge of the magnitude of December 2013 event. The surge of Tuesday, 21st October 2014, resulting from the tail-end of Hurricane Gonzalo, provided another a wakeup call and I have requested a report, to come to Overview & Scrutiny, detailing the level of preparedness to another tidal surge.

Although feedback regarding the way the Council, Emergency Services and Food Wardens responded to the December surge was very positive, three major concerns were identified:

1. **THE RELIABILITY OF THE MOBILE PHONE COVERAGE**, before and during the surge. (This issue has been partially addressed by the issue of new radios to the Wells Flood Wardens)

2. **THE ACCURACY OF THE SURGE PREDICTIONS.** (It is thought the variance is probably not significant)

3. **THE NEED FOR A REVIEW OF THE SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN (SMP)**, Wells Quay and East Quay comprise Zone PDZ 2K of the SMP. The only flood protection measure in this zone is the low wall, along The Quay, which was overtopped and outflanked in the December surge; The East Quay has no flood protection. Over 80 properties and businesses were affected, to some extent, by the December surge. I have been canvassing the views of house holders and traders, on the seafront, and it appears there is a consensus in favour of reviewing the flood protection measures along Wells Quay and East Quay. I am intending to put a proposal, to the Wells Town Council, during the Public Forum of its January meeting, seeking support for a full public consultation of stakeholders on the need for a review of the SMP and the flood defences along Wells Seafront. I intend to send a detailed report to the WTC prior to the meeting and hope that other stakeholders will give their views.

If there is support for a review, one flood defence model to be considered, should be the Partnership Model, adopted at Waldringfield, in Suffolk. Below is a link to the Waldringfield Flood Defence Group website, showing what can be achieved by community action:

[HTTP://WALDRINGFIELDFLOODDEFENCEGROUP.ONESUFFOLK.NET/THE-FLOOD/](http://waldringfieldflooddefencegroup.onesuffolk.net/the-flood/)

*N.B. WHILST THIS REPORT INCLUDES A SUMMARY OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE DISTRICT COUNCIL, ANY VIEWS EXPRESSED ARE THOSE OF THE ELECTED, INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR PRIORY WARD AND NOT THOSE OF THE DISTRICT COUNCIL. THE REPORT INCLUDES INFORMATION GAINED FROM DISCUSSION WITH INDIVIDUAL STAKEHOLDERS, ORGANISATIONS AND STATUTORY BODIES AND IS MENTIONED IN THE INTERESTS OF OPENNESS, TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN PUBLIC LIFE. I HAVE A PERSONAL INTEREST IN THE LAST ITEM AS A MEMBER OF WELLS SAILING CLUB AND OWNER OF PROPERTY IN THE FLOOD ZONE.*