

### **North Norfolk Big Society Fund**

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Voluntary and community organisations within North Norfolk may apply for Big Society Fund grants to support their projects. Full information including contact details are given in the Fund's page on the District Council website <http://bit.ly/cllr-fitzpatrick-BSF>. It is worth making contact at an early stage to discuss your application. The officers are very happy to give help and advice with any application.

The next Panel will sit on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2018 and the application cut-off date was 12<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

### **Bin Collection – Catch Up**

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During last week's somewhat severe weather, NNDC bin collections were suspended. Given the improvements in the weather our contractor will be collecting bins as follows:

If you missed a black bin collection last week those catch up collections have begun today, Monday March 5<sup>th</sup>, and will continue until the middle of the week. We will start collecting missed bins in date order starting with those missed on Wednesday February 28<sup>th</sup>. Please leave your bin out in the usual place until it is collected. If your collection was delayed, you can leave a reasonable amount of 'extra' bagged up waste next to your bin and it will be collected.

If your green bin is due to be collected this week, the first day it will be collected is on Thursday because priority is being given to missed black bins. Please leave your green bin out from Thursday until it is collected.

If you missed a green bin collection last week, there will be no catch ups of these because of the need to prioritise black bin collections. Your green bin will be collected on the next due date. If you have more recycling than fits into your bin, please put that recycling inside secured, clear bags and place those bags next to your green bin.

If your black bin is due to be collected this week, it should be collected on the normal day.

### **Suspended Jail Sentence for Animal Cruelty**

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A woman has been jailed for 22 weeks – suspended for two years – after pleading guilty to two charges of keeping a dog-breeding establishment without a licence, and a further 15 charges of causing unnecessary suffering to an animal or failing to ensure the welfare of an animal. The woman was sentenced at Norwich Magistrates' Court after being caught in an undercover sting by North Norfolk District Council officers. She was also ordered to pay NNDC's full costs, of £12,616, as well as a victim surcharge.

The woman had been running an unlicensed puppy farm from outbuildings at her home address. Following indications that she was breeding without a licence; North Norfolk District Council officers visited the premises in early 2017 and bought a puppy. A warrant was then obtained and NNDC officers accompanied by the police and a vet returned to the site in February last year.

Last November, the woman pleaded guilty to operating a dog-breeding establishment without a

licence but not guilty to several charges relating to animal welfare, and a trial date was set. Since then, a further visit was made to her premises, in January this year, when more evidence of an unlicensed dog-breeding establishment was found. The condition of the premises had deteriorated further, and this visit resulted in further animal-welfare charges and one further dog-breeding charge being brought.

## **Food Safety Training**

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We provide training to help you ensure that your staff are appropriately trained in food hygiene. We offer the CIEH Foundation Certificate in Food Safety. This course is aimed at anyone involved in food handling in catering; however, many of the principles apply to those who are working in any type of food business. To book your place on this course please call Customer Services on 01263 516189 or download an application form from our website and send it back to us with the relevant fee.

Courses are held at our Cromer offices, at Merchants Place in Cromer, or Fakenham Sports & Fitness Centre and the next courses will take place on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2018 and 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2018. Visit <http://bit.ly/cllr-vfitzpatrick-fst> for more details.

Councillor Vincent FitzPatrick, Priory Ward

<https://www.north-norfolk.gov.uk>