

## **Wells Town Council NNDC Report 04/04/22**

The Reef was officially opened on 31<sup>st</sup> March by the council leader Tim Adams. A tour of the facility followed, membership numbers have exceeded expectations and there have been 17,000 individual visits in February alone.

### **Covid Support Officers**

These temporary rolls were supported by NCC but came to an end on the 1<sup>st</sup> April. They were responsible for delivering food parcels, helping those who were not leaving their homes, with medication. Conducting contact tracing and assisting businesses to re open after covid.

### **Natural England 16<sup>th</sup> March 22**

Natural England issue guidance to local planning authorities concerning nutrient neutrality and the role it has to play in preventing adverse impacts to protected wetland habitats. The guidance relates to the river Wensum special area of conservation & The Broads special area of conservation. These areas cover all districts in the region and the guidance affects all districts in Norfolk. With immediate effect this guidance affects a range of development types in the catchment areas, including those with overnight accommodation. The Local planning areas are working together to understand and consider the impact of Nutrient neutrality before planning permissions can be granted. This resulted in four proposals being deferred at last Thursday's meeting. At the time of my briefing Anglia Water had no knowledge of this advice.

### **Ukrainian Refugees**

North Norfolk response has been:-

- undertake host property inspections through environmental health teams
- Developing proposals to provide 'welcome' support to hosts
- Provision of funds to recruit a Ukrainian/Russian speaker as a community support officer to assist refugees with medical registration, access to education and/or financial support for those able to access employment.
- Working with NCC to provide a 'welcome Centre' to give advice , basic information and essentials to settle.
- Help provide temporary working visas through seasonal agricultural workers scheme.

### **Formation of Youth Council**

With the help of the British Youth Council NNDC is looking to set up a youth council that engages with schools and youth organisations in the district to:-

- Represent local young people in decision making processes
- Campaign on issues that are important to young people
- Sit on scrutiny panels
- Inspect local services

There are already 620 youth councils which work with local governments to engage with decision makers to bridge the gap between the local young people and the council.

### **Accessible Toilets**

NNDC has been awarded £300,000 for new changing places to provide support to those with accessibility requirements. As well as those under construction in Wells and Fakenham two more are in the planning stage for North Walsham and Sheringham.