

Broadland District Councillor Report for Strumpshaw Parish Council – 21 July 2026

At the BDC Annual General Meeting of the Main Council on 21 May 2026 the following were approved:

Cllr Adrian Tipple was elected as Chair and Cllr Shane Ward as Vice-Chair. Cllr Sue Holland was elected as Leader and the Cabinet team remains in place as before, with Cllr Jan Davis holding the portfolio for Environmental Excellence.

All of the reports referenced below can be found here:

<https://democracy.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=142&MId=1068&Ver=4>

Annual Review of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2025/26.

The O and S committee oversees the decision-making process of the council, investigates areas of local concern and recommends improvements. The report summarised the committee's activities over the past year with a detailed tracker outlining the outcomes of recommendations made and can be viewed here:

Adoption of the Strumpshaw Neighbourhood Plan – Revised for 2025-2045

86.9% of respondents were in favour of the plan in a referendum held on 7 May. The revised plan was approved and now forms part of the statutory Development Plan for the area.

Street Naming Legislation and Update to the Street Naming and Numbering Policy

This adopted policy has been reviewed (the previous one dates from 2021) and revised to reflect new legislation. The alteration of a new street name requires local support, and residents are consulted on any proposals. Following an alteration, another application cannot be made for 10 years except in exceptional circumstances. Usually, street naming and numbering changes relate to difficulties for postal or emergency services in locating properties.

Antisocial Behaviour (ASB) Policy

An updated comprehensive ASB Prevention and Response Policy 2026-2029 was approved. The policy reflects changes in recent guidance and legislative changes. The approach to ASB is to identify, manage and reduce it in our communities by intervening early and using a partnership approach which is centred on the victims. ASB cases are becoming increasingly complex and can involve mental health issues, youth vulnerability and substance misuse. The aim is to take a fair and consistent approach, and a range of enforcement tools are available such including Community Protection Warnings and Notices, Criminal Behaviour Orders, Civil Injunctions and Public Space Protection Orders.

Design Code for BDC and SNC – Supplementary Planning Document

This was approved. A 6-week public consultation on this code was conducted from October to December 2025 and minor changes were made. The Code will assist planners in negotiating the design details of new residential development schemes. It will apply to all residential schemes between one and 500 dwellings. Large scale schemes need to undertake a Master Planning process. It

includes a BDC Character Assessment and assessment framework giving guidance on its practical application and provides extra guidance on implementing existing local plan policies.

Notice to Commence Plan Making

The Greater Norwich Local Plan (GNLP 2045) production process will progress under the government's new plan-making system. A formal Notice to Commence Preparation must be issued by the Council and has now been approved.

The government has offered funding to local authorities who commence plan making by 30 June 2026 and the following timetable will be followed:

The Gateway 1 self-assessment check is due on 30 October 2026

Then Gateway 2 and 3 assessments will be done, followed by a final examination.

All of these will be carried out by the Planning Inspectorate. Assuming the assessments are passed, the GNLP 2045 will be adopted in April 2029.

Housing Enforcement Policy and Civil Penalty Policy

The existing Housing Standards Enforcement Policy has been revised and was adopted. A new Housing Standard Civil Penalty Policy has been developed and was also adopted. These policies have been developed based on national model policies. The Renter's Rights Act 2025 places new duties on the council to enforce a wider range of landlord obligations, with the aim of ensuring that rented housing is good quality, safe and secure. Existing tenancies will become assured tenancies and Section 21 notices or "no fault" evictions will no longer be used. Later there will be a new national landlord database and landlords will be required to be registered. There are new legal duties on councils to take enforcement action in relation to illegal evictions and breaches of the legislation, although the council will work proactively with landlords to reduce likelihood of enforcement.

Women and Girls Safety Charter

This new charter adopted at Main Council aims to make women and girls feel safer and give them the knowledge that there is a support network around them when in public spaces. It is a shared voluntary framework that organisations and individuals can sign up to, to take action to improve women and girls safety, confidence and inclusion. There is national and local evidence to show that women and girls experience disproportionate levels of harassment intimidation, and violence in everyday settings. Violence and sexual offences make up a significant proportion of reported crime - just under 50% of the total. Those who sign up are not subject to new statutory requirements but are encouraged to commit to achievable steps to reflect their role, capacity and sphere of influence.

Homelessness Mitigation Strategic Workstreams – Next Steps

Growth in demand is expected for temporary accommodation due to a rise in homelessness. The main causes of homelessness continue to be: End of private rental, Domestic abuse, Family and friends no longer willing to accommodate, End of a relationship and Other reasons. The council has a plan to act and intervene to reduce the number of applications and limit the time spent in temporary accommodation via implementation of certain projects. BDC has received a funding allocation from the Local Authority Housing Fund (LAHF) Round 4. Council approved the use of funding in the budget to fund posts in the Housing Team. It also agreed to accept LAHF Round 4 funding and use additional capital funding

(£2647,984 in the Broadland Growth Reserve) to purchase 16 temporary accommodation properties and 8 resettlement properties. An additional capital budget of £1m will be created from the Broadland Growth Reserve for the acquisition of further temporary accommodation units with a focus on single-person household provision. Properties will be managed by Broadland Living Ltd.

Administration of the Building Safety Levy

Council has agreed that CNC Building Control will manage and administer the Building Safety Levy on behalf of the council. The funding for this service will come from New Burdens Grant funding from the government.

The BSL is a statutory charge to ensure that developers contribute to the remediation of historical building safety defects. It will come into force for applications submitted on or after 1 October 2026 following the draft Building Safety Levy (England) Regulations 2025. Local authorities are designated as the official BSL collecting agents. There is a list of exemptions to the scheme including NHS hospitals, and hotels for example. CNC is well placed to collect the levy as it delivers a shared service across a number of councils.

Entries for a place to take part in the Marriott's Way run on 20 September 2026 are now open. The 10km trail race starts in Aylsham on the Marriott's Way and finishes in the marketplace in Reepham. The run is flat and mostly off road along the Marriott's Way, perfect terrain for seasoned runners and those new to running due to the softer ground. Runners also get to see the beautiful Norfolk countryside as they run along the old railway line. For more information and to sign up go to <https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/leisure/marriotts-way-10k>

The Broadland Biodiversity Strategy was published last year, and the first Biodiversity Monitoring Report has been published highlighting the actions taken across the district to enhance biodiversity, help conserve our natural environment, and the progress being made more widely. To read the report go to: <https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/environment/trees-biodiversity/south-norfolk-council-and-broadland-district-council-biodiversity-strategies-2025-30> BDC is focusing particularly on improving the biodiversity of 10 different sites in the district and more information about them can be found here: <https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/environment/trees-biodiversity/broadland-district-council-biodiversity-strategy-20252030/how-we-are-improving-our-sites-broadland>

Cllr Davis and Cllr Laming attended an event at Brundall Memorial Hall on 1 June where the Kings Award for Voluntary Service 2025 was presented by Lady Dannatt, the Lord-Lieutenant of Norfolk, to Mrs Christine Buchanan, the Chair of the Cancer Community Chest, for the amazing work the team of volunteers do in Brundall.

A new Digital Assistant is now live on the BDC website. The Digital Assistant is a simple, easy-to-use tool that can answer common questions, guide users to the right services, and provide responses at any time of day. It has been introduced to improve the customer experience by making it quicker and easier for people to access council information, without needing to wait or search through multiple pages. To use the digital assistant, go to the website and click on the symbol on the website page called "Chat with Us." For more information go to:

<https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/digital-assistant>

Veolia has launched this year's Sustainability Fund in partnership with BDC. Applications are invited from community groups and individuals to submit projects to improve their local environments and communities for grant funding of up to £1000. The closing date is 30 September 2026. For more information and how to apply go to: <https://www.veolia.co.uk/sustainability-fund>

The new Carrowbreck training brochure is now out which covers training courses from July to December 2026. For more information go to: <https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/business/training-courses/carrowbreck-house-training-brochure-january-to-june-2026>

Cllr Laming attended the BDC flag raising ceremony for the Armed Forces on 22 June at the Horizon Centre.

Plans for Local Government reorganisation are progressing. It is expected at present that legislation (the Structural Change Order or SCO) will be laid before parliament in Autumn 2026. Councils are working on a joint basis voluntarily to prepare for this. An Implementation Board and Programme Team has been formed, and individuals have been recruited to key roles. Informal Joint committees are being established with first meetings due in July.

The draft modified Brundall Neighbourhood Plan is now out for pre-submission consultation (Reg 14) from 24 June to 10 August 2026 and the link to the consultation form is here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScAwUdnWAYKN45eAoZ2JDZvGI9mm2LwwBmLaEK8h7Oe3ZeEiQ/viewform?usp=send_form

The main documents can be viewed here:

- [Modified Brundall Neighbourhood Plan](#)
- [Brundall Design Guidance and Codes](#) (Appendix)

The Norfolk Community Safety Partnership has launched a Safer Norfolk Survey 2026 on crime and antisocial behaviour, with the aim of giving residents a chance to shape decisions that affect their community and improve access to services. It is open until 24 July. To complete the survey which takes approximately 5 minutes visit: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/t/safernorfolk26>

Nominations are now open for the 2026 Broadland Community Awards until 28 August 2026. If you know someone who has given their life to helping the community, an organisation who has made a difference to people's lives, or someone whose acts of kindness and support have an impact in their local community please consider applying. Shortlisted nominees will be invited to a special awards night on 15 October at the Royal Norwich Golf Club. The categories are as follows:

- **Young Achiever Award** - A young person (aged 18 and under) who has made an exceptional contribution to their community.

- **Community Organisation of the Year** - A community organisation who has made a significant impact to the community.
- **Business in the Community Award** - A local business or commercial organisation that has gone above and beyond to support the local community.
- **Volunteer of the Year** - An individual who selflessly devotes their time and energy to the community.
- **Environmental Champion Award** - An individual, school or community organisation who has made an extra effort to have a positive impact on the environment.
- **Connecting Communities Award** - An individual, school or community organisation that has gone out of their way to encourage communities to come together and promote inclusivity.
- **Lifetime Achievement Award** - A person who has dedicated over 20 years of their life to the community, volunteering for the benefit of others and deserves special recognition for their efforts and commitment.
- **Healthy and Active Award** - An individual, school or community organisation that has gone above and beyond in facilitating healthy and active lifestyles.
- **Rising Star Award** - An individual or newly formed community organisation that has recently begun their volunteering journey.

For more information and to apply go to:

<https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/broadland-community-awards>

Broadland District Council, Norwich City Council and South Norfolk Council (the Greater Norwich authorities) have published their Notice of Intention to Commence Plan Making in accordance with Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2026. A Local Plan Timetable has also been published in accordance with Regulation 8 of the same Regulations. The Greater Norwich Local Plan 2045 will cover the geographical and administrative areas of the above councils, excluding the Broads Authority Executive Area. For more information go to:

<https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/planning/future-development/local-plans/emerging-local-plan/review-of-the-greater-norwich-local-plan/broadland-district-council-notice-of-intention-to-commence-local-plan-preparation>

The council is reviewing existing policies and producing a new Regulatory Enforcement policy 2026 to 2029, with a clear overarching framework. The policy covers matters such as Community protection, Environmental quality, Food safety and licensing, Planning compliance and Building control. There are no major changes planned to the last policy which dates from 2022.

The Council ran a High Street Rental Auctions work programme to look at vacancy patterns in Broadland and engage with owners of long-term vacant premise. This is now complete, but BDC will continue to monitor the situation. High Street Rental Auctions were introduced through the Levelling up and Regeneration Act 2023, with secondary legislation in December 2024, as a new power to help local authorities bring persistently vacant commercial premises back into use. Broadland does not currently have a vacant premises issue of the scale that this legislation was designed to address.

BDC Cabinet is reviewing the treasury management activity for the financial year 2025 to 2026, and the activity of the Nutrient Mitigation Fund which provides credits to release planning approvals.

The council is looking to adopt a new Sex Establishment and Sexual Entertainment Venue policy with a schedule of fees and charges. The new draft policy has been drawn up following a review of the previous policy and a consultation which was carried out over 12 weeks from late 2025 to early 2026. The council has not received any applications since 2011 and does not currently have any relevant licensed premises.

BDC is planning to carry out work to decarbonise 11 temporary accommodation properties in the district before December 2026 by removing fossil fuel heating systems and replacing them with renewable heating technology and improvements to energy efficiency. Funding for this is to come from an existing Environmental Project reserve.

Cllr Laming has awarded her Members Ward Grant funding for a drum kit for extra-curricular use at Brundall Primary School for ongoing use from September 2026.

(Submitted by Cllr Jan Davis and Cllr Eleanor Laming on 7/7/26)