

**Update from Cllr Tom FitzPatrick**

NNDC Service Provision

- To protect customers, local businesses and staff, our services are being offered by phone and online.
- Face to face meetings are available to those who need them but these **must** be booked in advance
- Unscheduled drop-in meetings are not available and you will be asked book an appointment
- All visitors to the Council Offices must comply with Covid safety measures.
- The District Council can be contacted via the website or by phone on 01263 513811 (or 01223 849782 – out of hours)

Post July 19

- Any Government announcement the Government will be reflected in our service provision
- We will remain very happy for both customers and staff to continue to wear a face-covering if they choose to do so
- Like all employers we will be undertaking a full risk assessment which will further inform our approach.
- Out in the District we continue to prepare for a very busy summer and our COVID Support Officers and other frontline staff will continue to offer advice and support our businesses, residents and visitors on the new advice and guidance - including around face-coverings as appropriate

North Norfolk District Council is supporting Plastic Free July

The campaign is a key initiative of the Plastic Free Foundation, which is working towards a world free of plastic waste. NNDC is working towards being a single use plastic free Council by 2023, one reason for supporting and promoting plastic free July 2021.

This is all part of tackling how much we have become dependent upon plastics but now is the time to think about the impacts of that dependency. We manufacture billions of plastic objects that are used for a matter minutes but, after disposal, remain with us for centuries. Plastic micro-particles are now being found in every part of the planet.

The plastic free July campaign will provide tips and information on how we can all do our bit to reduce our reliance on plastic.

We have two recycling centres (Hempton and Wells) run by the County Council in the area where recycling can be accepted free of charge. There will be further information about Plastic Free July in the coming weeks.

## Sustainable Communities Fund

This is the successor to the hugely successful Big Society Fund and funding of up to £15k is still available for eligible projects. The committee meets every three months, but small grants of up to £1k are considered on a monthly basis. I was very pleased to be able to propose the recent grant for Little Snoring at the last meeting of the panel.

## Shortlisting for Award

North Norfolk District Council has been shortlisted for the 2021 Public Finance Awards, recognising an exceptional performance in the issuing of COVID-19 business grants to sectors in the District affected by the pandemic.

The Public Finance Awards, in association with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy, praises schemes and recognises the work of public bodies, such as Councils, in projects that have displayed excellence or originality.

NNDC has been shortlisted for the *Digital Finance Project of the Year*, for the COVID-19 response in processing grant payments to local businesses. This is a real tribute to the work of the staff over the past year.

## Reminder About Community Grants

- Remember that there three sources of funding from NNDC for community projects.
  - North Norfolk Sustainable Communities Fund – grants to help communities improve their environment and health and social wellbeing
  - Arts and Culture Fund – grants to encourage participation and active engagement with visual, literary and performing arts
  - Community Transport Fund – grants to fund projects that provide community transport services
- Full details of each grant scheme are on our website.
- Please share this information with community groups in the Parish.

Tom FitzPatrick  
District Councillor for Walsingham Ward  
19<sup>th</sup> July 2021

