

APPENDIX 5

Annual Report from District Councillors Brendon Bernard and Chris Brown

For our Annual Report, here are a few summary points from South Norfolk this last year:

- The Greater Norwich Local Plan (GNLP) is now adopted, having taken around 7 years to complete. It allocates site for around 45,000 new homes over 20 years. Locally, there has been a re-consultation on the Village Clusters element of the local plan, including potential new housing sites in Earsham, Ditchingham and Broome. This should be finalised over the next 12-18 months.
- We have been pleased to support funding for projects in Alburgh, Woodton and Ditchingham through our Member Ward fund this year, alongside supporting larger grants to Bungay Black Dogs Running Club and Alburgh Village Hall through the Communities Action Fund.
- South Norfolk Council is now celebrating its 50th Anniversary.
- I have continued to press the environmental agenda at the Council, with motions on the nature crisis, the climate emergency and pushing for improvements with recycling.

In terms of an update on current activity at South Norfolk:

- The former Leader of the Council, John Fuller, has stood down from this position after 17 years, having become Lord Fuller of Gorleston-on-Sea. A new leader, Daniel Elmer, was chosen last week at our AGM.
- The Council is now in No Overall Control, following a by-election on 2nd May, where the first Green councillor was elected. There are now 23 Conservative councillors and 23 from other groups.
- The Communities Action Fund for this year is £150,000, having been increased from the usual £50,000.