

District Councillor Annual Report May 2025

Here is a review of the South Norfolk District council over the past year.

1. Integration of South Norfolk and Broadlands Councils continued, with the new head quarters at Horizon working well.
2. There is a split council with the Conservatives as the leader party, but there is a good cooperation with all parties.
3. The financial accounts are in good shape and services do not need to be cut.
4. Annual council rates increased in line with inflation.
5. County Council elections delayed for 12 months while a new Council Authority is set up, to include a Mayor covering Suffolk and Norfolk.
6. DC leisure facilities recovering from closures during Covid and membership almost the same as before covid.
7. SNDC achieved its house building objectives, increased investment in Homeless issues. The Government now asking for an increase in building affordable houses, going forward.
8. Solar Panels covering the good farming land, has become a major issue. Likewise the proposed building of electricity pylons stretching for north Norfolk to London.
9. The Long Stratton bypass is finally being built, improvements on the A47 underway. Norwich Western link still being held up.
10. Main issues raised in Parish Council meetings.- speeding in villages, poor roads, connectivity of villages to market towns, GP facilities, Housing, School facilities and digital issues.
11. SNDC has increased its investment in net zero objectives.
12. The HUB support system has been a great success, sorting out a number of local issues for residents and supporting those in need.

Brendon Bernard Cllr
Ditchingham and Earsham Ward.