

Brendon Bernard
District Councillor for Ditchingham Broome Ward.

Review of year

The District Council has been dealing with covid issues, supporting business and families, financially and through the District Council Support Hub.

There has been further benefit from the cooperation between the District council and Broadlands due to savings in personnel and consultants.

Proposal to amalgamate the operational offices of the District Council and Broadlands in a new central location - proposal to buy the Horizon Building at Broadlands business park, refurbish it along eco lines. Present buildings would be demolished and replaced by housing. However there is opposition, although such a move could result in savings of £700,000 pa.

Of Course the Ukrainian war has been on everyone's minds. The District Council is trying to coordinate refugees placement and support. There is further information available on the District Council web site. They have recruited 3 translators to help refugees find their way. Diss and Wymondham are the main centres outside Norwich.

Annual Budget has been agreed for 22/23- which will include an increase in rates by 3 pct or £5.00. Budget for next 4 years has been established, which will also include £5.00 increase each year. District Council local grants fund has been increase to £150,000 pa.

Climate issues have been promoted over the year and the District Council has finally agreed to support initiatives to reduce South Norfolk carbon footprint

The District Council has voted to support the proposal to link the North and south link - Norwich Western Link - despite cost and funding issues, as the only sensible solution in the long term.