**Mulbarton PC Report 21st October 2024**

**Grants**

At present Member Ward Grants for 2024/25 have been fully reserved. Requests for future support with small projects (up to £1,000 usually) to benefit the local community can be made to your District Councillors.

**Flooding on B1113**

Following the September meeting with Norfolk Highways Officers, the Flood Engineer and Cllr. Plant, the cabinet lead for Highways & Infrastructure, to discuss flooding on the B1113. A further follow up meeting is planned.

The major current problem is seen as being the run-off of water from the A47. Highways staff will increase the pressure on National Highways to get this problem attended to. The long-standing issue of surface water on the road is recognised and Highways agreed to place warning signs on the road. The need for lower speed limits in wet weather was not accepted.

Orsted will continue to store storm water on site and tanker off excess water, until better water management processes are agreed with the Environment Agency and the County Council.

We encourage residents from all local parishes to log problems on the B1113 on the Highways website and to report problems to us. Photographic evidence is always helpful (but stay safe).

**Household Waste Removal – Fines of at least £120**

South Norfolk Council are planning a campaign to raise consumer awareness of their responsibility for household waste disposal. Any resident found responsible for fly-tipping is liable for a fine of between £120 and £1,000. Residents are reminded that this extends to any waste disposed of by an unauthorised carrier, so asking to see waste removal permits is a good idea when using a builder or any waste removal company. Companies can be searched at the National on-line database: <https://environment.data.gov.uk/public-register/view/search-waste-operations>

**Food Waste Collection**

South Norfolk Council is not planning to introduce domestic food waste collection until 2026. Commercial organisations will need to arrange separate collection of food waste from March 2025.

**South Norfolk Civic Charity Concert**

Cllr. Sharon Blundell is hosting the Civic Charity Concert at 7pm on Thursday 14 November at Wymondham Abbey. The concert is in support of MIM Youth Services and Costessey First Responders. It is hosted by Stephen Yallop and will feature talented young voices from Voice Junction. Tickets from: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/snc-civic-charity-concert-tickets-1015371532587>

**Defibrillator Grants**

The charity LondonHearts has received an award from the Dep. Of Health & Social Care to install 1,100 defibrillators. Matched funding of £750 is required. Applications via <http://www.defibgrant.co.uk/>.

**\*Design Code Consultation**

The second online consultation on the new Design Code for South Norfolk & Broadland is open until 5pm on Monday 11th November. The consultation focuses on the draft vision for the design code, and the priorities and opportunities for the different character areas identified. The elements specifically relating to medium sized villages like Mulbarton is attached.

<https://southnorfolkandbroadland.placechangers.co.uk/page>

**Town & Parish Council Summit**

Parish councils are encouraged to register for the annual summit meeting on 13th November at 9.30am at the Horizon Centre. The summit includes advice and new resources to help in the recruitment of Parish Councillors.

**Winter Preparedness**

A focus of South Norfolk Council is encouraging communities to prepare for winter and further adverse weather:

* Community organisations can apply for a winter pressures grant of up to £500 <https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/communities/community-funding/winter-pressures-grant> .
* The Council is producing a flooding prevention action plan.
* Residents living in properties at risk of flooding are encouraged to prepare for the winter.
* Parish Councils are encouraged to check that local emergency plans are up to date.

**‘Norwich to Tilbury’ Update**

National Grid has announced that it is now be undertaking a number of surveys along the proposed route of the pylons, to help refine and complete its application for planning permission (known as a Development Consent Order or DCO) to the Planning Inspectorate in Summer 2025.

 PylonsEastAnglia are continuing to campaign against the pylon proposals. For further information visit https://pylonseastanglia.co.uk/actions

**Bob McClenning, Ian Spratt & Jim Webber**

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|  | **Councillor Contact Details** |  |
| Cllr. Jim Webber |  jim.webber@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk | 07394 323215 |
| Cllr. Ian Spratt  | ian.spratt@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk | 07554 668337 |
| Cllr. Bob McClenning | bob.mcclenning@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk | 07769 030926 |

**\*Extract from Design Code Consultation**

The Consultation considers four classifications of settlement pattern in South Norfolk:

* Norwich Fringe Settlements including Costessey, Cringleford & Trowse;
* Market Towns & Key Service Centres including Wymondham and Hethersett;
* Medium & Large Villages including Mulbarton, Wreningham & Ashwellthorpe; and
* Dispersed Settlements & Countryside including smaller villages such as East Carleton and Hethel.

Swardeston is classified in the Medium & Large Village Category. The issues and opportunities for these villages are suggested to be:

Key issues:

* Safety/attractiveness of pedestrian and active travel routes
* Loss of mature landscape features (e.g. hedgerows)
* Speed of vehicle traffic (particularly at edges of villages), and congestion on wider street network

Key opportunities:

* Retain ‘rural’ character of village, for example the importance of village greens/centres
* Use of locally distinctive, traditional materials (e.g. red brick, flint etc)
* Views and visual impact to local landmarks (particularly with regards to local landmarks e.g. windmills/churches)
* Retain and enhance physical and visual connection to the countryside
* Protecting and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and their setting (e.g. listed buildings, farmhouses etc) – protecting views from these to the countryside. Any architectural response to adjacent listed buildings must be carefully considered (not pastiche).
* Varied typologies - design approach to new development may result in more variation in patterns of development e.g. courtyards, farmsteads
* Improved connections to centres/services
* ‘Gateways’ into the villages to address congestion and speed of vehicles (positioning/placement of housing – using the built form to mark the transition into a village)
* Reinforcing status/identity of villages (e.g. signs, heritage, use of colour, white marker stones)