

Stoke Holy Cross District Councillor Report 19th June 2025

Member Ward Grants

Member Ward Grants for 2025/26 are now available. Requests for support with small projects (typically up to £1,000 per project) to benefit the local community can be made to your District Councillors.

Community Action Fund Grants

Applications for grants of between £1,000 and £15,000 can be made via a District Councillor. The closing date for applications is 30th June. Successful projects are likely to have matched funding in place, be able to complete within 12 months of the grant and be able to demonstrate considerable community benefit and community support.

Nature Conservation Fund

Expressions of interest for a grant from the new Nature Conservation Fund must be made by 30th June. Applications close on 31 July.

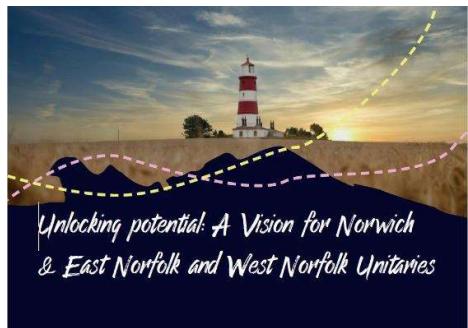
<https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/climate-change-environment/trees-biodiversity/nature-conservation-fund>

The fund can make awards of up to £10,000 for projects that best meet the following criteria:

- Carbon sequestration: Projects that actively contribute to tackling carbon emissions.
- Biodiversity benefit: Initiatives that enhance local ecosystems and support a diverse range of plant and animal life.
- Public accessibility to greenspace: Creating and improving green spaces that are accessible and enjoyable for the entire community.

Priority will be given to proposals that deliver one or more of the following projects: a Miyawaki mini forest, pond creation and restoration and a circular walk.

Devolution & Local Government Reform – South Norfolk Public Engagement Survey



South Norfolk has launched its public engagement survey which can be accessed on line. The survey runs until 11.59pm on 25th July 2025.

The Council's Vision for Norfolk document setting out the vision for two Unitary Authorities covering Norwich & East Norfolk and West Norfolk can also be accessed through the link below.

Link to survey and Vision for Norfolk: <https://sway.cloud.microsoft/NQkQI3wyjuXt1stf?ref=Link>

Norfolk County Council has published a 500 page report (including appendices) setting out its option appraisal to justify its preference (as expected) for a single unitary council covering the whole of Norfolk. This was discussed at the Strategic and Corporate Select Committee Meeting on Wednesday 18th June.

All councils will submit their final proposals to the Government on 26 September 2025.

South Norfolk and Broadland Design Code

The draft Design Code for new housing in the area is still available online for review. Feedback can be given through the online consultation which closes on 23rd June.

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

Food Waste

South Norfolk Council are expected to start residential food waste collection in May 2026 soon after this becomes a legal requirement. The rollout will be in 4 phases, organised by postcode, with completion by end September 2026. Residents can expect 2 bins – an indoor 7 ltr bin and a lockable 14 ltr bin for use outdoors and for collections. Non-compostable liner bags will be supplied to residents, and removed before recycling.

South Norfolk Landscape Susceptibility Study

The Council has commissioned an external firm of Landscape Architects to produce an analysis of the susceptibility of the local landscape to different forms of energy infrastructure, including solar farms, battery storage systems and overhead powerlines. Consultation on the draft document, which will form a supplementary planning document, is expected to start on the 7th July. The document is expected to help protect the Norfolk landscape and to help planning officers in responding to local planning applications and also to Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects such as East Pye Solar.

Climate Change and Environmental Team Workshops

South Norfolk Council will be offering workshops designed to help communities and Parish Councils improve the sustainability and resilience of their local areas from September 2025. Details to follow.

'Norwich to Tilbury' Update

National Grid have advised that archaeological surveys including trial trenching at some locations along the proposed route will be continuing for 6 months.

The National Grid application for a Development Consent Order is expected later this year.

PylonsEastAnglia are continuing to campaign against the pylon proposals. For further information visit

<https://pylonseastanglia.co.uk/actions>

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