

# **Stoke Holy Cross District Councillor Report 17<sup>th</sup> July 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.

## **Devolution & Local Government Reform**

South Norfolk Council has launched its own online consultation on local government reform. It can be accessed here: <https://sway.cloud.microsoft/NQkQI3wyjuXt1stf?ref=Link>

Everyone with an interest in the management of Council Services is encouraged to complete the survey. There is also a chance to win Amazon vouchers or a luxury hamper! **The survey closes on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> July.**

Future Norfolk is the consortium of Norwich City Council, Kings Lynn Borough Council, Great Yarmouth Council and the other District Councils in Norfolk. The Future Norfolk Consultation closes on 1<sup>st</sup> August and can be found here: <https://www.futurenorfolk.com/have-your-say>. There is no consultation, or even any explanation of, the proposed boundaries for the 3 unitary authorities that this grouping is proposing.

South Norfolk has scheduled a meeting to review its submission to Government on 24<sup>th</sup> September. Final submission is due in on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2025.

## **Refuse Collection Days**

The Council is swapping bin collection weeks for some residents as part of its preparation for the collection of food waste in 2026. This will start in August. Only a minority of residents will be affected and each household affected will be sent a direct communication beforehand.

In Stoke Holy Cross, only some residents in Norwich Road, Brickle Lane and Brickle Loke will see any change.

## **VJ Day – 80 Flags Project**

SNC is encouraging organisations and groups to fly the Union Jack flag on 15<sup>th</sup> August – the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VJ Day. A limited number of flags are available from the Communities team at South Norfolk.

## **Landscape Susceptibility Supplementary Planning Document**

South Norfolk is under pressure from many energy infrastructure projects including solar farms, Battery storage systems, converter stations and grid enhancement. The Council has opened a consultation on a new planning guide designed to highlight site sensitivities, design and mitigation, helping applicants align proposals with national and local planning frameworks while minimising adverse impacts on the landscape and local communities. The Leader of the Council said, “I am proud to say this council is taking a hard-hitting, proactive stance to ensure that our contribution to the nation's energy future never comes at the cost of our irreplaceable and unique local character”.

<https://southnorfolkandbroadland.oc2.uk/>

## **Tasway Solar Farm**

Proposals are emerging for another large solar farm on the Southern edge of the ward. The Tasway Energy Park would generate c700mW of electricity, around 40% more than the neighbouring East Pye proposal. The park would run from Ashwellthorpe to Wacton. Further information can be found on:

<https://taswayenergypark.co.uk/>

There are serious concerns that South Norfolk is being 'disproportionally targeted' for several large projects, such as Tasway Energy Park. Daniel Elmer, leader of South Norfolk Council has stated that proposals that come forward work for the residents of South Norfolk as well as everyone else. Ben Goldsborough, Labour MP for South Norfolk has issued a letter to residents throughout the area, stating, *'I am firmly against the proposed Tasway Energy Park solar farm'*. He has launched '**No Way Tasway**' campaign: <https://bengoldsborough.co.uk/no-way-tasway>

Ben Goldsborough MP is also hosting a public meeting to gather views on the proposals. This is at 18.30 on 23<sup>rd</sup> July at Thorpe Hall, Musket Lane, Ashwellthorpe, NR16 1FD.

#### **'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 in late August 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**

##### **Councillor Contact Details**

Cllr. Jim Webber	<a href="mailto:jim.webber@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk">jim.webber@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk</a>	07394 323215
Cllr. Ian Spratt	<a href="mailto:ian.spratt@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk">ian.spratt@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk</a>	07554 668337
Cllr. Bob McClenning	<a href="mailto:bob.mcclenning@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk">bob.mcclenning@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk</a>	07769 030926