

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting of Poringland Parish Council
Wednesday 13th September 2023 at 7pm
Meeting held at Poringland Community Centre

Attendance: Ken Aldridge (Chair), Sean Curtis, John Henson David Hewer, John Joyce, John Overton (also attending as an SNDC Councillor), Lisa Overton-Neal (also attending as an SNDC Councillor), and Carl Pitelen.

Also, in attendance: Charlotte Hummel (Clerk), Lisa Callow (Assistant Clerk – Minute-Taker), NCC Vic Thomson (advised he would arrive late), and 2 members of the public.

1. To Appoint a Chair to the Parish Council

Tim Boucher resigned as Chairman prior to the meeting taking place. Lisa Overton-Neal proposed Ken Aldridge to be the next Chairman of Poringland Parish Council this was seconded by John Overton. There were no further nominations put forward and it was **AGREED** unanimously. Ken Aldridge accepted and signed the Chair's Declaration of Office.

Ken Aldridge gave thanks to Tim Boucher for his time as Chair, and previously Vice Chair, and for the level of hard work and commitment he has given the Council.

2. To Receive and Approve Apologies for Absence

Tim Boucher gave apologies due to work commitments. These were **ACCEPTED**, apologies were also received from SNC Nicola Fowler.

3. To Receive Declarations of Interest

John Overton declared he is on the planning committee at SNDC, therefore would not take part in item 7.

4. To Agree Minutes of the Meeting on 12th July 2023

The Minutes of the last meeting were **AGREED** and signed.

5. Matters Arising, including Clerk's Report

- **Sam2:** The Sam2 Camera has been situated on Norwich Road near the High School. Its next location will be on Norwich Road near the One Stop. This could not be installed prior due to overgrown vegetation from neighbouring properties. Letters were sent to the homeowners reminding them of their responsibility and can confirm that the hedges have now been cut.
- **EV Charging Points:** Poringland has been selected for the pilot scheme for charging points at the centre. Several companies have attended the community centre and supplied quotations to NCC for the cost of install. The Clerk has received terms and Conditions from NCC regarding this and will send round to Councillors. A decision will be required whether to continue at the October meeting
- **Councillor Training:** Councillors undertook training on 31st August. A number of subjects were covered by the training by NPTS
- **Rectory Lane Verges:** A resident had contacted the NCC over a verge that they had cut for a number of years but were now unable to carry out the function. NCC have confirmed that the verge is under delegated cutting from the Parish Council. This has now been updated and will be cut.
- **Defibrillator/Insurance:** The clerk has continued to chase the insurance company of the car that crashed into The Railway Tavern and also hit the defibrillator. A response has been made and is with the underwriters. The clerk will continue to chase this matter to ensure that a replacement is put back.
- **Tree Cutting:** T Bird has commenced the tree works as per the approved quotation. This is being undertaken over the course a few weeks.
- **Broadband to the Community Centre:** Fibre broadband has been confirmed for Poringland. At present various companies are in the area and approaching residence regarding connectivity. Two companies County Broadband and Gigaclear have promised to install fibre broadband to the centre with no further costs. The clerk will be kept up to date on progress of this.
- **Community Centre:** The clerk, assistant clerk and caretaker are currently obtaining quotes to change the lighting from halogen to LED. The office will also look into funding options to help with the cost. The office is also looking

through the various service contracts and getting up to date quotes to ensure the centre is getting value for money. A company have also been approached for new signage for the centre since the completion of the new office.

- **Police Station/Maintenance:** The clerk has met with Duncan Potter and Mike Chambers from Norfolk Constabulary regarding the police station and maintenance work that is carried out. The lease was discussed due to work being carried out without obtaining PC permission. It has been agreed that they will fund the cost of the work to rectify it, a quote is also being sourced for the remainder of the building. The clerk conducted an inspection of the station and the police will also cover the cost of a number of blown window panes.
- **Recreational space and Play Area at Clements Gate Transfer:** Transfer of the play equipment is now underway and the clerk has advised David Wilson Homes of solicitor's details. This will mark an agenda item in October
- **Sand and Gravel Charity:** The Charity Commission have now confirmed that the contact details for the charity have now been changed to the clerk. This has been a slow process. The bank accounts and transfer are also difficult. The clerk has contacted the previous trustees regarding this.
- **Council Van:** A van has now been purchased and has also had signage works carried out on it.

6. Adjournment for Public Participation, County and District Council Reports, and Councillors with any Pecuniary Interests

- a) District Councillors John Overton and Lisa Overton-Neal gave brief reports including confirmation that the footpaths on Church Close were to be fully resurfaced and work will be starting next month. Also, both John Overton and Lisa Overton-Neal are on the selection panel to appoint the new SNDC MP. (See Appendices A & B)
 - b) County Council Report – due to delayed arrival report given following point 7 – planning. (See Appendix C)
 - c) Public Participation – None
 - d) Police – None
- The Clerk advised that PC Andy Sneddon has been deployed elsewhere and currently a replacement Beats Manager has not been announced.

7. Planning

- a) To Consider Applications Received
 - i. 2023/2142 Proposal: Single storey side and rear extension
1 Glenn Road, Poringland, Norfolk, NR14 7LL – **NO COMMENT (Already approved by planning)**
 - ii. 2023/2383 Proposal: Non-material amendment 2022/2423 – Remove chimneys from two dwellings
Location: 11 & 12 West view, Poringland, Norfolk, NR14 7LW – **NO COMMENT (Already approved by planning)**
 - iii. 2023/2523 Proposal: Reserved matters for appearance, landscaping, layout and scale following outline permission 2021/0488
Location: Land to the North of Heath Loke, Poringland, Norfolk – **OBJECTION**
The Council object to the planning application on the basis that the visual splays are not satisfactory, more clarification is required regarding drainage, and vehicular access appears limited for heavy goods vehicles. The sweeping curve of the main road displayed on the plans has changed from the originally drawn plans, and could encourage vehicles to exceed the speed limit. Proposed John Henson, seconded John Joyce.
- b) To Note Planning Decisions
 - i. 2023/2383 Proposal: Non-material amendment 2022/2423 – Remove chimneys from two dwellings
Location: 11 & 12 West View, Poringland, Norfolk, NR14 7LW – **APPROVED.**
- c) To Consider Poringland Parish Council's Support to Caistor St Edmund and Bixley Parish Council in respect of planning application 2022/2148 – it was agreed for the Clerk to write a letter in support of the objection being made by the said Council for planning application 2022/2148. It was also **AGREED** to include

Poringland Parish Council's original objection regarding the adverse effect on the neighbourhood plan. Proposed John Henson, seconded David Hewer.

8. Finance

- a) Receipts, Payments, and Bank Reconciliations up to 31st August 2023 were **NOTED**
- b) Accounts for Payment
 - i. The accounts for payment were **AGREED**. Proposed John Henson, seconded David Hewer.
 - ii. The additional payment list was **AGREED**. Proposed David Hewer, seconded John Henson.
 - iii. Lisa Overton-Neal **AGREED** to approve BACS payments via banking online.
- c) To Receive Fully Audited Accounts for 2022/23 – unfortunately these have not been received back from PKF and therefore this item will be postponed until the October 2023 Council meeting.
- d) The quarter 1 budget review was distributed to all Councillors prior to the meeting along with minutes of the Finance and Governance Advisory Group held on 19th July 2023. These were **NOTED**. Proposed John Overton, seconded David Hewer.

August Payment List agreed with delegated authority:

Payee	Description	Net Total	Gross Total	VAT (reclaimable)
July '23 Staff Costs	Salary, PAYE, Pension, & Expenses	£15,834.86	£15,834.86	
Brooke MOT & Service Centre	Citroen Berlingo - Council Van	£10,250.00	£12,300.00	£2,050.00
Men's Shed	Poringland Letters	£150.00	£150.00	
Oaks CCTV	Callout - CCTV issue	£90.00	£108.00	£18.00
Rijo42 Ingredients Ltd	Coffee Machine Ingredients	£559.58	£560.88	£1.30
Officeflow	Printing	£47.95	£57.54	£9.59
Office Water Supplies Ltd	Filtered Water Rental	£71.50	£85.80	£14.30
Ben Burgess	Strimmer Wheel	£4.19	£5.03	£0.84
High Speed Training	Trainer	£260.10	£312.12	£52.02
NPT Support	Councillor Training	£295.00	£295.00	
Morello Roofing Services	Roof Repairs & Gutter Cleaning	£175.00	£210.00	£35.00
Poringland Parishioner	Poringland Fires	£164.12	£164.12	
Poringland Brownies	Christmas Decorations	£7.50	£7.50	
Intouch Systems	Internet / Wifi Router	£260.00	£312.00	£52.00
Ace Shelters	Supply & Fit Bus Shelter	£3,395.00	£4,074.00	£679.00
Ace Shelters	Supply & Replace Panel	£250.00	£300.00	£50.00
ECR	Annual Cash Register Contract	£145.00	£174.00	£29.00
Garden Guardian	P.Field Grounds Maintenance	£241.51	£289.79	£48.28
Garden Guardian	Parish Grounds Maintenance	£1,180.92	£1,417.10	£236.18
R&Q Electrical	Annual PAT Testing	£382.50	£459.00	£76.50
R&Q Electrical	Emergency Light Test	£430.45	£516.54	£86.09
MPS	Automatic Door Service	£240.00	£288.00	£48.00
Spruce Landscapes	Cemetery Grounds Maintenance	£595.83	£715.00	£119.17
Amazon	Stationery/Kitchen Equipment	£201.94	£242.38	£40.44
Yare	Consumables	£416.22	£433.72	£17.50
Unity Multi-card	Café Consumables/Web Hosting/Tools & Equipment	£462.34	£462.34	

BT	Mobile Phones	£114.02	£136.82	£22.80
Waste Managed	Waste Removal - August 23	£42.00	£50.40	£8.40
Waste Managed	Waste Removal - August 23	£42.00	£50.40	£8.40
Iris Software	HR Software	£64.00	£76.80	£12.80
BNP Paribas	Coffee Machine Rental	£167.92	£201.50	£33.58
Total Energies	Pavilion Gas - July 23	£154.91	£162.66	£7.75
Total Energies	Pavilion Electricity - July 23	£93.19	£97.85	£4.66
Total Energies	C.Centre Electricity - July 23	£1,592.64	£1,911.16	£318.52
Total Energies	C.Centre Gas - April 23	£257.04	£269.90	£12.86
Total Energies	C.Centre Gas - May 23	£72.23	£75.84	£3.61
Total Energies	C.Centre Gas - June 23	£69.90	£73.40	£3.50
BT	Broadband & Landline - Aug 23	£124.89	£149.86	£24.97
Total		£38,906.25	£43,031.31	

September Payment List:

Payee	Description	Net Total	Gross Total	VAT (reclaimable)
August '23 Staff Costs	Salary, PAYE, Pension, & Expenses	£15,113.18	£15,113.18	
T G Bird Tree & Garden Services Ltd	Removal of dead trees - Ash	£700.00	£840.00	£140.00
T G Bird Tree & Garden Services Ltd	Removal of dead trees - Silver Birch	£700.00	£840.00	£140.00
Citrus Shredding	Confidential Waste - Annual Fee	£320.00	£384.00	£64.00
Staffology	Payroll Software - April 23	£22.00	£26.40	£4.40
Staffology	Payroll Software - May 23	£26.00	£31.20	£5.20
Staffology	Payroll Software - June 23	£32.00	£38.40	£6.40
JML	Fridge Service	£143.00	£171.60	£28.60
Spruce Landscapes	Cemetery Grounds Maintenance	£820.83	£985.00	£164.17
N&G Heating Ltd	C.Centre Boiler Service	£133.33	£160.00	£26.67
MPS Doors Ltd	Automatic Door Repair	£688.99	£826.79	£137.80
Hugh Crane	Cleaning Consumables	£186.94	£224.32	£37.38
Office Water Supplies	Water Cooler Rental	£71.50	£85.80	£14.30
R & Q Electrical Ltd	Lighting & Sign Repairs	£407.13	£488.56	£81.43
Office Flow	Printing	£61.04	£73.25	£12.21
N&G Heating Ltd	Pavilion Boiler Service	£66.67	£80.00	£13.33
Amazon for Business	Tools/Paint/Uniforms	£132.21	£159.02	£26.81
Yare	Café Consumables	£377.11	£388.58	£11.47
Alfamed Specialists	Fireworks - Paramedic Cover	£223.00	£223.00	
ESPO	Stationery	£145.85	£175.02	£29.17
Yare	CN - Café Consumables	-£1.18	-£1.18	
Garden Guardian	P.Field - Grounds Maintenance	£241.41	£289.69	£48.28
Garden Guardian	Parish Grounds Maintenance	£1,180.92	£1,417.10	£236.18
SNDC	Dog Bin Annual Fee 23/24	£4,087.71	£4,905.25	£817.54

Unitypay Multicard	Café Consumables/Job Advert/Refreshments	£137.86	£148.55	£10.69
Staffology	Payroll Software - July 23	£32.00	£38.40	£6.40
BNP Paribas	Coffee Machine Rental - Oct 23	£214.92	£257.90	£42.98
Waste Managed	Cemetery Waste Removal-Sept 23	£42.00	£50.40	£8.40
Waste Managed	C.Centre Waste Removal - Sept 23	£42.00	£50.40	£8.40
Total Energies	Pavilion Gas - August 23	£94.71	£99.45	£4.74
Total Energies	C.Centre Gas - July 23	£72.23	£75.84	£3.61
BT	Mobile Phones - August 23	£114.02	£136.82	£22.80
Veolia	Waste Removal	£64.56	£77.47	£12.91
Total Energies	Pavilion Electricity	£91.24	£95.81	£4.57
Total Energies	C.Centre Electricity	£1,445.48	£1,734.57	£289.09
Wave	Pavilion Water - Jun-Aug 23	£119.72	£119.72	
Wave	C.Centre Water - Jun-Aug 23	£369.28	£369.28	
Total		£28,719.66	£31,179.59	£2,495.93

9. Consider Norfolk Constabulary's Request to Change to Wooden Entry Door to a Glass and Aluminium Door to Match Existing Community Centre Windows and Doors

Norfolk Constabulary's request to change their entry door to a glass and aluminium door was **AGREED**. The door colour and window film with match those in the rest of the community centre. Proposed John Henson, seconded John Joyce.

10. To Approve the Quote of a New Laptop for the Clerk

The replacement of the Clerk's laptop from Easy PC at a cost of £911.36 +VAT was **AGREED**. Proposed Lisa Overton-Neal, seconded John Henson.

11. To Agree Quotations or Assign Delegated Authority to the Clerk for works to be carried out on the Community Centre Roof and Windows

Due to ongoing problems with the community centre roof leaking, a number of window and roofing specialists were contacted to advise on the work required. It was **AGREED** to appoint MD Mann to remove the window panels and re-bed them, and carry out roofing repairs, for a price of £2500 +VAT. The work will be funded using CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy). The work will take a week to complete, it was **AGREED** to close the community centre for the week commencing 23rd October 2023. Proposed John Henson, seconded John Joyce.

12. To Consider a Request from Welcome Home and Playing Field Trust Trustees for the Purchase of Door Entry Software

It was **AGREED** to purchase door entry software initially for use at the Pavilion, however this software will also be used for other Council owned buildings in the future. The work will be funded using CIL. Proposed John Joyce, seconded Lisa Overton-Neal.

13. To Approve Works for Piping to the Ditch off the Community Land

Carl Pitelen gave details regarding the ongoing problem with flooding on the community land. Due to two different sizes of underground piping being used as part of the drainage system, each time it rains a blockage is created causing flooding. It was **AGREED** to give delegated authority to Carl Pitelen and the Clerk of up to £2,000 +VAT to seek quotes to replace the smaller pipework. Proposed John Overton, seconded David Hewer. Lisa Overton-Neal also noted that a lot of the ditch is blocked and needs clearing.

14. To Approve a Quotation for Pond Clearance of the Memorial Pond

It was **AGREED** to accept Spruce Landscapes quote to undertake clearing the memorial pond, the Clerk will ensure that half the work will be undertaken this year, and half the work undertaken next year. Proposed Lisa Overton-Neal, seconded David Hewer.

15. To Receive Updates and Consider Recommendations from Advisory Groups

- a) Events Advisory Group – the Clerk gave an update on the fireworks event confirming that all main vendors and equipment had been booked, including the use of a new ticket booking system. Some discussion was had regarding the ticket prices, and it was **AGREED** to charge adults £6 per ticket, and children over 3 £4 per ticket. Proposed John Henson, seconded David Hewer. Any profit from the event will go towards the replacement of the play equipment at Mulberry Green, behind the Community Centre.
- b) Community Land Project – the Clerk confirmed that there was still no decision on the planning application submitted but it is imminent, the application will not be going to the SNDC Planning Committee. Projected costs for the allotments have been received, due to the cost the Clerk suggested revisiting some ideas such as plot holders erecting their own sheds, and having natural pathways to reduce the cost. It was also suggested to initially start with half the number of the planned 140 plots. The Clerk has met with SNDC to discussing potential funding streams. Due to the size of the project the Council need to consider additional office resources, it was **AGREED** for the Clerk to form a proposal to put forward at a future Council meeting.
- c) Amenities Woodland Tree Management – Carl Pitelen and the Clerk put forward the need for a five-year woodland management plan.

(9.02pm – John Henson left the meeting)

In the first instance it was **AGREED** to work on clearing out some trees along the footpaths, the work will concentrate on woodland safety and tree health. A tree surgeon has quoted a fee of £750 per day, but is willing to reduce that to £300 per day if Carl Pitelen assists with the work when it is carried out. John Joyce recommended carrying out a risk assessment and documenting everything accordingly.

(9.04pm John Henson returned to the meeting)

Proposed Lisa Overton-Neal, seconded Sean Curtis.

16. To Receive Proposal to Close the Meeting for Item 16 Under Section 1 Paragraph 2 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 as it refers to Service of Employment

Proposed David Hewer, seconded Lisa Overton-Neal. **AGREED**

17. Staffing Update

The Clerk confirmed the appointment of the new Café Assistant who is settling in well. Ken Aldridge and Lisa Overton-Neal have completed the Clerk’s appraisal, and the Clerk will be starting on the team appraisals shortly.

18. Date and Time of Next Parish Council Meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will take place on Wednesday 12th October at 7pm at Poringland Community Centre unless otherwise advised.

Meeting Closed at 21.16.

CHAIRMAN

Signed: Date:

Appendix A

District Councillor Report – September 2023

Town & Parish Summit: We are holding our first in person Town & Parish Council summit on [Thursday November 9th from 9:30am – 12:30pm](#). This invite is open to Parish Clerks and Chairperson and/or Councillors. More details to follow.

Vehicle Related PSPO: The formal consultation for the Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) - vehicle-related ASB is now going live. Letters have been sent to all the formal consultees:

Police

Police & Crime Commissioner

Norfolk County Council Highways

Parish and Town Councils – which you should have received.

The consultation closes at 11:59pm on 29 September 2023.

Some of our market towns and Villages are blighted by a few local drivers who routinely congregate in areas causing nuisance, littering and disturbance and/or drive circuits around these areas.

Pro-active enforcement work has been and continues to take place against the minority, however, it is costly and takes significant resource, which is difficult to maintain. Long term, we must enable the Police to intervene earlier and dispatch the minority from the area before their behaviour impacts - a PSPO allows this opportunity.

Policing update: We had Superintendent Kris Barnard South Norfolk and Broadland District Policing Commander attend the Council to give Members an update on policing in the District.

It was good to see that South Norfolk is one of the safest Districts, not just in the County but in England.

It was amazing to see how many calls they receive in Norfolk in just one month:

May 2023

999 – 12388 101 – 7586

Officers are still encouraged to “Park, Walk and Talk” in their areas to get to know their communities, but they are now looking at a new strategy “Right Care Right Person”.

The Right Care, Right Person model seeks to ensure the right agency deals with the matter.

Currently, in a number of situations, the police are attending incidents but are not the right agency to deal with the issues facing them.

The Home Office are finalising a National Agreement between the police, NHS England and the Department of Health & Social Care to incorporate the Right Care, Right Person operating model.

This agreement is planned to be finalised shortly.

Norfolk Constabulary, working together with partners, aims to start implementation of Right Care, Right Person in the Winter of 2023.

Grants: I have attached leaflets regarding two grants that are available for Community Groups which I hope you would be able to advertise.

Local Plan: The Greater Norwich Development Partnership, which includes Broadland District Council, Norwich City Council and South Norfolk Council, submitted the Greater Norwich Local Plan to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government for independent examination. The Plan has now been examined by the Government’s Planning Inspectorate and the inspectors have reported that they are supportive of the great majority of the sites we submitted for inclusion in the plan. The inspectors have shared some modifications to the plan that they would like to see the partnership make. This is normal for a plan of this complexity and the amount of changes requested are comparatively minor. It is still on course to be adopted by the three Councils in January 2024.

NN: We have written to the development sector in Norfolk to confirm that we are preparing to sell credits in the Yare catchment in the next few weeks.

Solar Together: Broadland and South Norfolk Councils are offering residents the chance to be part of a scheme to help make it easier for homeowners and small businesses to buy solar panels for generating energy. The councils, along with other councils in Norfolk, have once again partnered with bulk buying specialist iChoosr to set up Solar Together Norfolk, which is a group-buying scheme where the more people and businesses who join, the better the price should be of the installation. Register by 27 October, 2023, and then pre-vetted UK solar PV installers will participate in an auction. They are able to offer competitive pricing as the volume and geographic concentration makes it possible for them to realise greater efficiencies, which they pass on with lower prices for installations.

Town/Parish Council Forum: We are pleased to invite you to the Broadland and South Norfolk Town & Parish Council Forum for 2023, which will take place on Thursday 14th September at 2pm until 3pm via Zoom. Please find attached the agenda, which has the Zoom details. The forum will be an opportunity to provide updates on key issues and to ask questions and discuss areas of interest.

Pride in Place Grants: We have just opened up round two of the above grant scheme. Following a successful round one scheme we still have some funding left for feasibility and revenue which is what is available in this second round.

Appendix B

District Councillor's Report : Nicola Fowler

After a relatively quiet summer, Council business is now starting to pick up again. I have attended a meeting with Vicky Edge from Help Hub in order to have a better understanding of what support is available in our local community, undertaken training so I am ready to start attending the Finance committee meetings from next week & reviewed local planning applications.

I would like to remind everyone that I have a £1,000 Member's Ward grant to be paid out during the year. Also the Community Action Fund is available to apply for as well. Please keep in mind if you are part of a group that needs funding to talk to me about it.

Appendix C

Norfolk County Councillor Update – August 2023

Norfolk County Council and Suffolk County Council have been formally appointed by Government as responsible authorities for preparing a Local Nature Recovery Strategy for their respective counties. This means that they will be working together to help improve wildlife habitats and reverse the decline of biodiversity across the region, working with local communities to develop a tailored nature recovery strategy for their areas. They will also work with other local planning authorities, the Broads Authority, Natural England, and a wide range of stakeholders and partners, including farming and landowner groups. This is all part of Government's ambition to further drive nature recovery, with 48 individual local authorities across the country receiving allocations from a £14 million funding pot. Norfolk and Suffolk County Councils will receive £333,000 and £282,000 respectively over two years to fund this work. With the best ways to support nature recovery depending on local character and geography, Local Nature Recovery Strategies will help communities map out the action needed in their area to restore nature.

The Norfolk and Suffolk councils have already been working closely with each other, jointly hosting the Norfolk and Suffolk Nature Recovery Partnership, and a host of other stakeholders and interested parties to prepare for this moment. The two authorities have pooled resources and expertise and to ensure that strategies effectively join up across the two counties to the wider benefit of nature and people. The Strategies will focus on how to improve habitats and protect the natural environment across the region, with local approaches tailored to the specific circumstances of each area. Norfolk and Suffolk are home to a variety of beautiful and unique landscapes, from the chalk streams of the Norfolk Coast to the Stour estuary at the south east of Suffolk and across many habitats in between, and specific policies will be drawn up to best protect and nurture each location.

Future plans will include working closely with other neighbouring counties, to identify and support opportunities for nature recovery at sufficient scale to really benefit wildlife." Our countryside and natural environment is a key part of our identity here in Norfolk, and we're absolutely committed to nurturing it. Our work with Suffolk County Council will help protect nature throughout our counties and give it a chance to recover, to grow and to flourish for many generations to come.

Food waste

Households across Norfolk and Suffolk are being urged to sign up for a mission to do their bit to protect the planet and help get the best out of salad and vegetables. Mission Food Savvy is targeting these items in the war on waste as they are some of the most thrown away foods in the two counties. The summer campaign promotes savvy ways to store salad and vegetables to keep them fresher to be savoured another day; or send them undercover in delicious dishes to make sure nothing goes to waste. Using a fun, hero agent theme, the campaign reveals how everything from tomatoes to cucumbers, carrots to broccoli, can escape the waste bin through better planning, storing and cooking. Mission Food Savvy is the latest in the well-established Food Savvy campaign, run jointly by Norfolk County Council and Suffolk Waste Partnership.

The campaign inspires households to reduce food waste by:

- Planning meals before shopping to ensure nothing goes to waste
- Keeping vegetables and salads in optimal condition by storing them correctly
- Getting creative with leftovers and send spare veg undercover into other dishes.

Suffolk Waste Partnership and Norfolk County Council work together on the Food Savvy campaign. Rob Cole of the Suffolk Waste Partnership said: "Households in Norfolk and Suffolk throw away enough food in a year to fill Norwich Castle almost 25 times over, or 155 Bury St Edmunds cathedrals. What we are challenging people to do is to make it their mission to plan what they need and not waste food or money." Councillor Eric Vardy, Norfolk County Council cabinet member for Environment and Waste said: "The average household wastes over two

months' worth of food each year - that's more than £700. Reducing food waste is good for the planet and our pockets, especially as many of us are working hard to make our budgets stretch further. We hope residents embrace our FoodSavvy mission and are inspired to use up their leftovers." As well as financial savings there are environmental savings too. If everyone in the UK stopped throwing away food for just one day it would be the same as taking 14,000 cars off the road for a whole year.

Volume of food waste calculations based on 737,883 households in Norfolk and Suffolk ([Census 2021](#)). It assumes each household has a waste bin with a capacity of 240 litres, so the total volume of waste bins in Norfolk and Suffolk is about 177.1 million litres. Our research shows that 35% of this volume contains food waste, therefore the volume of food waste in the waste bins is about 62 million litres. There are no official stats to the volume of local landmarks, but we can make some rough estimates for illustrative purposes. For instance, the volume of food waste in the waste bins is roughly equivalent to:

- 24.8 Norwich Castles (the castle has a volume of about 2.5 million litres – estimated by multiplying height of 27m by area of 93,000m²)
- 155 Bury St Edmunds Cathedrals (the cathedral has a volume of about 400,000 litres – estimated by multiplying height of 40m by area of 10,000m²)

The average household wastes £700 of food each year. The latest ONS survey shows our region, 'East', spends £66.40 a week on food and non-alcoholic beverages ([ONS Family Spending Workbook 3 – 31 May 2023](#)). Annual wastage figure divided by weekly spend makes an equivalent of 10.54 weeks, and 4 weeks per month makes 2.5 months.

The greenhouse gas emissions associated with the 9.5 million tonnes of food waste in the UK in 2018 have been estimated to be around 36 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e), according to the latest report from [Waste and Resources Action Programme](#) (WRAP). [\[ONS\]](#) Norfolk County Council has committed to working with our partners to achieve 'net zero' carbon emissions on our estates by 2030, but within our wider areas, work towards 'carbon neutrality'. This also supports the government's ambition for a net zero country by 2050. We will achieve this by implementing carbon conscious ways of working across our buildings and supply chain; putting in place the right infrastructure across the county to support the move towards net-zero; and by working together with partners to lead and inspire our colleagues, citizens, communities and businesses to take action and play their part in protecting Norfolk for future generations.

Did you know that around 75% of all litter consists of items used for drinks? Join the [#RefillRevolution](#) and top up your reusable cups or bottles at hundreds of locations in Norfolk which you can find on the free [@Refill](#) app. Find out more here: <https://orlo.uk/refill> [AcEYS](#)

Heading for a day out this summer? Take your reusable bottles, coffee cups and lunch containers with you. Look out for the [Refill HQ](#) window sticker to find hundreds of places to top up in Norfolk and save on the pointless packaging. Find out more here: https://orlo.uk/refill_norfolk_z7gVv

Batteries

DON'T cover chargers or battery packs when charging overcharge battery overload sockets or use inappropriate extension leads follow manufacturer's instructions unplug charger when finished charge batteries while you are awake use the manufacturer approved charger Cheaper batteries purchased from online sources which don't necessarily adhere to UK safety regulations are more likely to fail and present an increased fire risk Always buy from a reputable seller and [#ChargeSafe](#)

Enjoy a family day out in Norwich! Groups of 5 can travel for just £6 on weekends or week days after 10am. <http://konectbus.co.uk/norwich-park-ride> Fares on all Norwich park & ride services will be even cheaper from this September, making it easier and more affordable to travel car-free into the city centre by bus. The new

fares will be introduced, thanks to money that Norfolk County Council has secured from the Department for Transport (DfT) to help improve bus services across the county. From Monday 4 September, passengers will be able to travel for one price at any time of day. The new fares have been designed to provide more flexible fare options for those choosing to travel independently, as a couple, as a family or with friends. Adults - £3

- Concessions £2
- 17-19 year olds - £2
- Child (5-16) - £1.50
- Extra passengers will cost just £1 when travelling with a full paying passenger.
- Under 5s still travel for free

The new fares coincide with the re-opening of Postwick park & ride, which further enhances the service, providing five out of town sites for those wishing to visit Norwich, from all major routes into the city . The park & ride is a vital service for Norwich and with the re-opening of Postwick it's important that we get passenger numbers back up across all our sites. These new prices make the park & ride a really affordable option for a trip into the city and is great for people wanting to avoid parking in the city centre. With buses running every 20 minutes throughout the day it's also a great flexible option for those wanting to get to work in a cheaper and greener way. This is the first fares promotion to be announced as part of the County Council's Bus Service improvement Plan (BSIP).

Approximately £5.3 million of the BSIP funding has been allocated to fares promotions to make bus travel more affordable in Norfolk over the next three years.

Norfolk Bus Service Improvement Plan Norfolk received the sixth highest allocation in the country and the funding consists of £30.9m of capital funding and £18.6m of revenue funding. The plans outline 17 new measures across the county which give buses priority on the roads. These include new bus lanes in Norwich, King's Lynn and Great Yarmouth and redesigned junctions across the county. New or improved travel hubs are proposed for Sheringham, Cromer, Diss and Hunstanton which will provide better waiting areas with real-time information to help to give passengers a better experience as well as being integrated with walking and cycling facilities. There will also be a county-wide review of bus stops with upgrades to improve access for people with disabilities, to provide more real-time information and a programme of works to reduce delays to buses.

Improved services announced as part of the BSIP:

[Lynx 35 and 36 service](#)

[Sanders – X55 and 210 service](#)

[Konectbus – 5b and 11a service](#)

[Konectbus - 512 service](#)

[Konectbus – Fab4 service](#)

[Sanders – X40 service](#)

[Konectbus – 35 Canary Konect service](#)

[Lynx 35/38/48/49 services](#)

[First – Pink line extension](#)

[Coach services - 88/89 service](#)

[First – multiple service enhancements](#)

Regular bus users and people travelling in groups are set to benefit from cheaper bus fares from next month thanks to money that Norfolk County Council secured from the Department for Transport (DfT) to improve bus services across the County. The new fares discount, which will start on 3 September will mean that group day tickets for up to five people, weekly tickets and monthly tickets on all services across Norfolk will be discounted by 25%*. This is the third in a series of fares discounts recently announced, with cheaper tickets on all Norwich park & ride services from September and the King's Lynn Town Zone flat fare of £1.50 which starts next week. Approximately £5.3 million of the funding received from the DfT has been allocated to fares promotions to make bus travel more affordable in Norfolk over the next three years.

Norfolk County Council Net Zero

Encouraging more people to use the bus travel and other sustainable options is key to our ambitious aims of achieving net-zero in Norfolk by 2030. Norfolk County Council has committed to achieve 'net zero' carbon emissions on its estates by 2030, but within its wider area, to work with partners towards 'carbon neutrality'. This also supports the government's ambition for a net zero country by 2050. We will achieve this by implementing carbon conscious ways of working across our buildings and supply chain; putting in place the right infrastructure across the county to support the move towards net-zero; and by working together with partners to lead and inspire our colleagues, citizens, communities, and businesses to take action and play their part in protecting Norfolk for future generations.

The school and council want to understand what the biggest challenges are in supporting your children to attend school regularly and how we can support your family to overcome them. Take the five-minute survey to share your thoughts at: https://orlo.uk/attendance_bSEBq

No big deal, we've only gone and signed up 7000 children already to the [#SummerReadingChallenge](#). (Okay, it IS a big deal). Find out more about the challenge here: <http://tinyurl.com/NorfolkLibsSRC2023...> and find out about our events for children here: <http://tinyurl.com/SRC2023Events>

Do you need to dispose of unused paint? Find out how to at https://orlo.uk/disposing_of_paint_7W2Wy

Summer garden plans? Leftover fence and decking stain and garden chemicals? We've got you covered! Norfolk County Council's Hazardous Waste Events are back in 2023 during September and October! Find out more here, <https://norfolkrecycles.com/hazardous-waste-events-announced-for-2023/>

- [Rogue Trader Alert - Doorstep cold caller claiming issues with properties' roof](#)
- [Scam Alert - Automated telephone cold calls claiming to be from HMRC](#)
- [Scam Alert - Automated telephone cold calls claiming to be from 'Visa'](#)
- [Scam Alert - Telephone cold calls offering to stop telephone cold calls](#)
- [Scam Alert - Investment scams and fake cryptocurrency exchanges](#)
- [Safety Alert - Bosch has issued an 'Important Safety Notice' for their 'Bosch Styline Toaster' with the model numbers TAT8611GB & TAT8613GB' due to a potential risk of fire](#)
- [Recall Alert - Iceland is recalling 'Cathedral City Cheese & Ham Gratin 400g pack' with the best before date of 02 May 2024 due to the possible presence of Listeria monocytogenes](#)