# BROADLAND GREEN PARTY GREEN NEWS THE PLUMSTEADS & THORPE END



Cllr James Harvey - Green Party councillor for Plumstead Ward

August 2023

# Little Plumstead, Great Plumstead and Thorpe End

I would like to say a big "Thank You" for the support shown in voting for me in the local election earlier this year. I will work hard to represent the views and concerns of all residents. Please contact me if you have queries or issues related to district council services and I will do my very best to help. My contact details are overleaf at the bottom of the page.

### **EXCITING NEWS FOR BROADLAND!**

Not only did the Green Party win the Plumstead seat but we retained our two seats in Brundall Ward with an increased majority and also won the seat in Burlingham & Lingwood. With the Conservatives losing in other wards this meant no single party was in overall control of the council. The political parties then entered into negotiations to decide how the council was to be run.



### A Strategic Partnership

The outcome of the negotiations was a partnership of Greens, Liberal Democrats, and Labour Councillors to run Broadland District Council. This is a great chance to develop new policies for residents and to run the council taking into account climate change and the need to protect our local environment.



### OUR SUCCESSES

In the relatively short time Greens have been on Broadland Council we have been working hard on a variety of issues raising the concerns of residents.

**Sewage discharges** – we have worked with Anglian Water on limiting unacceptable sewage discharges in the Yare Valley which had been occurring for many years. But there is still more work to be done to limit further discharges.

**Planning applications** – we monitor planning applications and represent the concerns of residents when inappropriate development is proposed. Natural England paused house building in the sensitive Wensum and Broads catchments due to nutrient overload. Developers are now required to offset additional nutrients entering the environment before they are allowed to build more houses in these special areas of conservation.

**Tree & hedge planting** – we have supported the submission of grants for tree & hedge planting working with communities, schools, and private landowners. Grants are available through Broadland Council for further planting.

# **DECLARATION OF A CLIMATE & BIODIVERSITY EMERGENCY**

On the 27<sup>th</sup> July the UN Secretary-General António Guterres' stated in extracts from his speech: "the level of climate inaction is unacceptable. Leaders must lead. No more waiting for others to move first. There is simply no more time for that. It is still possible to avoid the very worst of climate change. But, only with dramatic, immediate climate action. We have seen some progress. But none of this is going far enough or fast enough. Accelerating temperatures demand accelerated action."

On the same day the UN Secretary General made his statement **Broadland District Council declared a Climate and Biodiversity Emergency**. It is a statement to declare we are serious about doing what we can to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change. The following motion was adopted on a majority vote:

- 1) Council recognises the dangerous and accelerating effects of unmitigated climate change and ecological destruction for Broadland, Norfolk, and globally.
- 2) Council resolves to declare a Climate and Biodiversity Emergency to highlight the importance and significance of climate change and biodiversity in all we do.
- 3) Council resolves to act accordingly within the limits of its resources and powers and report back regularly on progress.

## Actions we can take locally



Solar panels being installed on my roof

Recent wildfires and floods from Southern Europe to the USA and Canada have highlighted the need for action on climate at all levels. Where possible I will be acting, like many people, to lower my carbon emissions. I have just installed solar panels and battery storage but not everyone can afford the improvements available. That is where the **Norfolk Warm Homes Scheme**, managed by Broadland District Council for all Norfolk councils, can assist homeowners and tenants. Anyone can contact the scheme for help or advice on saving energy. Grants to help insulate and heat a home are available for people who have a gross income of under £30,000 and live in a home with an EPC rating of E, F or G. Search online: <a href="https://norfolkwarmhomes.org.uk/">https://norfolkwarmhomes.org.uk/</a>

Council issues can be reported via the council website: https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/

Alternatively, you can contact the council directly by phone: 01603 431133

You can also email Broadland District Council: reception@broadland.gov.uk

To report highways issues: https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roads/report-a-problem

# **HOW TO GET IN TOUCH**

WE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

The **Broadland Green Party team** can be even more effective working on local issues with your help. Could you:

- · Let us know which issues matter to you
- Help deliver newsletters to a street near you?

Please call or text: 07818 446 109

E-mail: cllr.James.Harvey@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk

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