

# Summer

## Long Stratton News

### WELCOME TO THE SUMMER EDITION

Welcome to the Summer Edition 2023. You may have noticed that we skipped the Spring edition. This is partly due to the preparations for the King's Coronation which has kept the Council staff and volunteers exceptionally busy. There is more information about the event later in the newsletter.

Elections took place recently. Long Stratton Town Council saw Robin Ciorra join the Council and we gave him a warm welcome. Sadly, Stephen Buss didn't re-stand and we would like to thank him for his contribution to the Council.

There is also change with the District Councillors for Long Stratton. Councillor Josh Worley who joined in 2019 has moved to a different area and the Council wish him well. District Councillor Alison Thomas has also stepped down after serving many years in the Stratton Ward. The Town Council would like to thank her for her hard work. Councillor Thomas is also the County Councillor for Long Stratton and we look forward to continue working with her in this capacity.

The Council were pleased to hear the planning permission for the 1800+ homes and bypass were approved by South Norfolk District Council in March. For the bypass, Norfolk County Council were receiving Expressions of Interest towards the end of April 2023. The top 3/4 contractors will be selected towards the end of May with the procurement process completed by the end of December. All side road orders are now being submitted to Secretary of State.

I am excited to say we have lots of new play equipment which was installed during the month of May. We asked children and families in November 2021 what the local community would like to see on the playground and the Council has taken this forward. I hope you all enjoy it! We would love to hear your feedback.

Kelly Lunness, Chairman.

### MEET YOUR COUNCIL

**Chairman**  
Councillor  
Kelly Lunness

**Vice-Chairman**  
Councillor  
Mat Pochin

Councillor  
Andrew Lansdell

Councillor  
David Willis

Councillor  
Diane Woodham

Councillor  
Helen Dickerson

Councillor  
Judith Baker

Councillor  
Louise Mundford

Councillor  
Robert Mackenzie

Councillor  
Robin Ciorra

Councillor  
Susan Smith

2 Vacancies



### **Long Stratton Town Council**

Pavilion, Manor Road Playing Fields, Manor Road, Long Stratton,  
Norwich, NR15 2XR

Tel: 01508 530524

Email: [office@longstrattontowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:office@longstrattontowncouncil.gov.uk)

Website: [www.longstrattoncouncil.info](http://www.longstrattoncouncil.info)

June 2023

# King Charles Coronation

What a day!

Councillors, office staff and volunteers were on site at 8am and were soon hard at work putting up gazebos and moving tables and chairs. Huge thanks to Long Stratton Village Hall for loaning us their tables and chairs so that we could make sure there were plenty for all. Stall holders began arriving at 10am and got set up for the 1pm start. In total we had 44 stalls, and tea, coffee and cake being served in the Pavilion.

There were frequent checks of the weather forecast as everyone hoped the rain would stay away.



At 1:30 'James D Party Time' kicked off the entertainment in the best way he knew how and entertained the crowds who came to the event in droves. It was wonderful to see so many people come and enjoy the event.

Just after 2pm we were joined by the Harley Davidsons who certainly could be heard before they were seen! James continued to entertain until 3:30pm.

Next came the winners of the treasure hunt, pop-up tent and ping pong.

Charlene Ledgard came on stage and sang a mix of old, current and theatrical songs beautifully, before Olly and 'One Knight Only' saw the day out rocking till 7pm.

It was great seeing everyone enjoying themselves.

**Right:** East Anglian Play Bus





We could not have planned, set up and run the event without help, and would like to thank the following for either sponsoring the event or giving donations:



Top 2 Bottom Cleaning, Norfolk & Suffolk Carpet Fitter, South Norfolk Leisure Centre, Netherton House, Harriets Cake Shop, Co-Op, Queens Head, Mark Robinson, Tindall Brewery, Goodfella's Barber Shop, Pete's Pets, Body Shop, Hippodrome Circus, Tim Courridge Fitness, The Little Seafood Truck, Alice Lucy Beauty, Corn Hall Diss, New Hong Kong, Huggers, Eden Beauty, The Butcher House, Naked Ice-Cream & Waffles, Evie Clark Hairdressing, Dan Dan Creations and Tropic with Jessica Middleton-Keen.

We would also like to thank all volunteers, members of the events committee, Council staff, our friends and family, and lastly the Long Stratton Community.

Thanks!



**Top Left:** Evie, aged 4 with a gorgeous painted face

**Above:** Guess the Weight of the Cake, expertly made and donated by The Corner house Cakery (won by the first person to enter!)

**Left:** Spin to Win manned by volunteers donating their time



## 2023-2024 PRECEPT REQUIREMENT

The Precept is the levy raised from Central Government and forms a part of your annual Council Tax bill. Every year the Town Council sets the budget based on the cost of delivering its services such as Town maintenance, operating public toilets, refuse collection, street lamps, street furniture such as bus shelters and benches, and many others.

The Council have commissioned a phased installation of play equipment for this year which will cost in total £95,000. This has been taken from a mixture of Ear-Marked Reserves, which is money that has been earmarked for projects, general reserves and £16,000 has been received in grants.

The Town Council are very conscious that all in the community will be feeling the effects of rising charges especially in utilities and this was taken into consideration when setting the precept., however this has also applied to the Council and we have also seen a sharp rise in costs such as electricity and water.

The other impact the Council has seen is the level of vandalism which has a cost to the Council in resource, materials and contractors, the Council will be reporting quarterly what the cost of vandalism and anti social behaviour accumulates to.

The precept for 2022-2023 was set at £11.62 per month per band D property. The precept for 2023-2024 has increased to £12.45 per month, an increase of 83p to reflect the current climate.

### BUDGET HEADLINES

Administration	£ 36,459.70
Resource	£ 120,566.90
Streetlights	£ 10,242.26
Environment	£ 10,276.00
Events	£ 2,500.00
Toilets	£ 22,494.87
Churchyards	£ 2,500.00
S137 & Grants	£ 3,500.00
Playing Field	£ 10,722.46
Pavilion	£ 21,676.72
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 240,437.91</b>

To note:

It is anticipated that we will receive approx. £22,148.67 with income being derived from the Pavilion community room and grants received.

The precept total is £213,942

The shortfall will be made up from the Council's general reserves.

If you have any questions please email the Town Clerk.

# Community

Following a report in the EDP regarding the potential bids for the sale of South Norfolk House, the Clerk attended a meeting to object to any bid relating to housing. The Town Council have been made aware that there is a Community bid on the table which would see South Norfolk House retained and repurposed to Long Stratton Community & Arts Centre.

The project is anticipated to provide 25 jobs alongside resident and visiting artists. The new facility, if approved by South Norfolk District Council, will cater for both for traditional artist and those engaged or wishing to enter into the Digital, Interactive, Media, Photographic and Musical arenas, catering to the creative needs of all generations both present and future.



## Restorative Justice

Following a spate of anti-social behaviour, liaising with the local constabulary, we have been working together to identify the youths who carried out the vandalism and under supervision carry out site maintenance as penance. Graffiti was removed from the skate park and bus shelters were cleaned. Unfortunately, we still have anti-social behaviour in Stratton. Where possible we will report all incidents to the Police and restorative justice work will be carried out.

## Community Café

Every Friday 10 –12 you are warmly invited to come to the Pavilion for a hot cup of tea and a biscuit. One of our friendly Councillors will be here to greet you.

You can come with friends and family, all are welcome.

It is a great opportunity to speak with us about your community and find out more about the Council and the role it plays in your community.

It would be lovely to see you there.



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*Did you know, there are life saving defibrillators situated at the Pavilion, Co-op, Police Station, Schools and the library.*

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## COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS



The Council meet every second Monday of the month in the Pavilion, with the exception of August, and discuss prevalent matters concerning the parish of Long Stratton.

The Council operates 5 Committees. Committees meet no less frequently than quarterly, however in reality, they meet more often in lines with the needs of the Council and Community.

The Committees have their own terms of reference which dictate what they can and can't do, therefore the committee will either approve a decision or will make a recommendation for consideration at a full Council meeting.

All agendas for meetings are on the noticeboards and website a minimum of 3 clear working days including Saturday, if you are interested in a topic then come along.

### **Next 3 month meeting dates**

10th July at 7pm

(no meetings in August)

11th September at 7pm

9th October at 7pm

### **Full Council**

All 13 members meet on the second Monday of the month to make the strategic decisions not delegated to a committee.

### **Events**

Currently the Council have 2 major events at Christmas and Summer.

### **Planning & Highways**

The Council are a consultee only for planning applications. They also look at all matters relating to the Highway.

### **Finance**

To assess and scrutinise all matters relating to Council finance.

### **Staffing**

Deals with all matters HR

### **Leisure & Pavilion**

Makes strategic decisions relating to Council owned open space and the pavilion.

## WE HAVE 2 VACANCIES

**Are you passionate about what happens in your local area?**

**Would you like to make a difference and help shape the future of your community for the better?**

Local councils can only be as effective, relevant and vibrant as the people elected to run it, so we need councillors who are capable, energetic and engaged – from all backgrounds and experiences to reflect their communities. Being a councillor is highly rewarding. No other role gives you a chance to make such a huge difference to the quality of life of people in your local area and to influence the way issues are dealt with locally. Councillors are elected to represent the local community, so you must either live or work in the council area. Becoming a councillor is both a rewarding and privileged form of public service.

All Councillor's are volunteers and through a democratic procedure vote on decisions that will shape Long Stratton into being a better place live, work and play. A recent decision was to replace some of the play equipment in the park.

A councillor's role and responsibilities include:

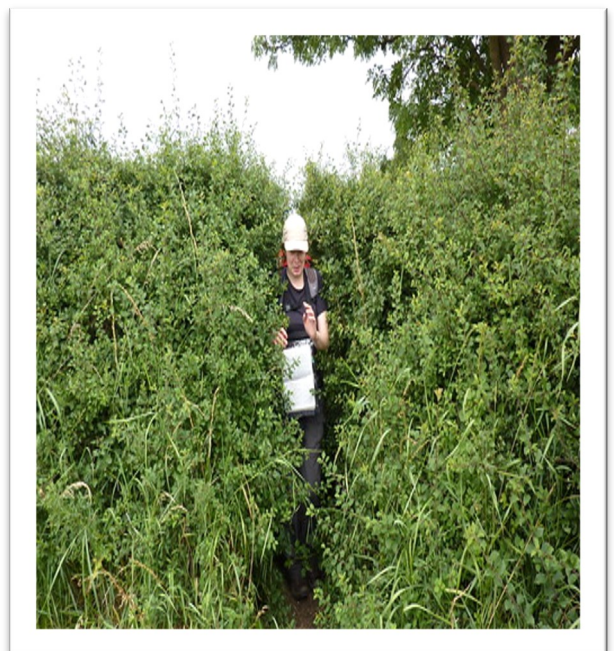
- developing strategies and plans for the area
- serving the community – helping with problems and ideas
- representing the community
- working with others
- decision making and reviewing decisions

## HEDGES

Its that time of year again where hedges start growing, and growing fast.

The Highways Act of 1980 Section 154 states that hedges that are overgrown that causes a loss of light, an obstruction, reduces visibility or is a hazard on grounds of Health & Safety must be cut back. Private hedges must be cut on the road/pathway side. There are repeat offenders in Long Stratton and we are working with the relevant authorities to get these hedges cut.

Please be mindful of your hedges and keep them cut back, the Town Council will be delivering letters to the properties that are not maintaining their hedges.



**OFFICE OPENING HOURS**  
**MONDAYS, TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS**  
**10AM-2PM**  
**CLOSED WEDNESDAYS**

**Has this newsletter piqued your interest?**

**Is there something that you would like to know more about?**

**Is there something that you would like to see in the next newsletter or on the website**

**Please get in contact, this newsletter is designed to provide as much information about the important work Long Stratton Town Council are doing and the chances are, if you have a query, other residents will have the same query.**

**Please take the time to have a look at the website, address is on the first page.**

**We look forward to hearing from you.**

## KEY CONTACTS

Town Council office - 01508 530524

South Norfolk District Council - 01508 533701

- Bins
- Council tax
- Housing

Norfolk County Council - 0344 8008020

- Highways
- Social Services, adult and children
- Education

Allotments -

Managed by St Michaels Church - 01508 530296 or e-mail  
[Rosemaryaf.bennett@btinternet.com](mailto:Rosemaryaf.bennett@btinternet.com)

Long Stratton Medical Partnership - 01508 530781

Long Stratton Dental and Implant Centre - 07503 636449