

# Summer

## Long Stratton News

### WELCOME TO THE SUMMER 2024 EDITION

Welcome to the summer edition of the Town Council newsletter. I say summer in trepidation as the weather has been rather wet and the sky's grey, not what you would want for summer time. With that in mind all the wet yet warm weather has meant that hedges, grass and verges are growing exponentially, please can everyone be vigilant with hedge cutting, please remember it is both sides of the hedge that need cutting. Thank you.

We have recently had a change in the Council team. Tom who was the Direct Services Officer has moved on to pastures new. Tom was with us for 6 years and was a valuable member of the team, the Town Council would like to wish him all the best for the future. We have a new Direct Services Officer, Martin. There is more about Martin in the newsletter, if you see him come and say hello.

The summer event on the 6th July was a soggy affair, the heavens opened near enough all day so I want to say a massive thank you to all that came, the stalls that bravely battled the weather, the performers, the food vendors, all the volunteers that kindly gave up their time to run stalls and a special thanks to all of you that came to support the event. There is more information in the newsletter regarding the event.

Now that the bypass is underway, Octavius are using the foyer of the pavilion as an information board which will be updated with information as the bypass is being built. Please feel free to pop in and have a look.

Whether you are going on holiday, having a staycation or having to work throughout the summer, I hope you are able to enjoy it.

Long Stratton Town Council Chairman , *Kelly Lunn*.

#### **MEET YOUR COUNCIL**

**Chairman**  
**Councillor**  
**Kelly Lunn**

**Vice-Chairman**  
**Councillor**  
**Mat Pochin**

**Councillor**  
**Andrew Lansdell**

**Councillor**  
**David Willis**

**Councillor**  
**Katrina Thompson**

**Councillor**  
**Helen Dickerson**

**Councillor**  
**Judith Baker**

**Councillor**  
**Louise Mundford**

**Councillor**  
**Robin Ciorra**

**Councillor**  
**Susan Smith**

**Councillor**  
**Justin Harris**

**Councillor**  
**Florence Morimont**

**Councillor**  
**Vacancy**



#### **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)

July 2024

# Youth Worker Update

Our regular Youth Café drop-in sessions began on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May, one for 11-16 years from 3pm-5pm and then from 5.30-7pm for young people aged 16+. Since then programme activities have included circus skills, smoothie bike, mini pizza making, giant snakes and ladders, stone decorating and making Pom Pom people. We will continue to open as usual during the summer break and are looking forward to making use of the playing fields for some team games and challenges, (weather and numbers permitting).



We are also looking forward to having some fun whilst learning some relaxation techniques at our upcoming Yoga and Mindfulness session on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> August from 4-6pm for all young people aged 11-18 (and up to 24 with additional needs). We will also be holding a Post-Results Day session from 5.30-7pm on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> August offering information and support around education and career options for young people aged 16+. Alongside our usual drop-in sessions we will also be holding sessions of our Junior Youth Café, 3-4.30pm on Tuesdays 30<sup>th</sup> July, 13<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> August for young people aged 8-11 years. The Junior sessions need to be booked and a consent form completed, as places are limited.

For further information and to book a place please contact Anastasia Twigg on [anastasia.twigg@longstrattontowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:anastasia.twigg@longstrattontowncouncil.gov.uk), on 07743 938147, on Facebook @Anastasia Twigg Youthworker or @lsyouthactivities.

There are also lots of opportunities for young people to get involved in activities available across South Norfolk organised by the South Norfolk Youth Advisory Board including a 'Futures, Life, Learning and Wellbeing' session on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> August in Long Stratton.

For more information go to <https://www.snyab.org>

We are still needing volunteers, especially to support the regular Youth Café sessions on Wednesdays. Please get in touch with Anastasia on the contact details above if have a few hours to spare and enjoy working alongside young people. We'd love to hear from you.



## **Summer event 6th July 2024**

The summer event this year was particularly wet! The office team had regularly been checking the weather for the day and the forecast was as unsettled as the weather, with the forecast changing every half an hour. Volunteers were here by 8am putting up gazebos and getting everything ready for the event to start at 1pm.

There were plenty of challenges along the way, the inflatable obstacle course cancelled last minute due to the weather, the inflatable dartboard arrived and turned out to be an inflatable soft play, gazebos were trying to fly away and of course England were playing in the semi—final!

There were also plenty of positives. Stall holders battled the elements for as long as they could, children had a lot of fun with James D Party Time. As there were less people than anticipated it allowed for BikeActive to whizz round the park showing some of their fabulous bikes and the work they do. Members of the public enjoyed bingo and although the majority of people had left by the time Emily and Jon had started to play, those that remained really enjoyed it and the rain had finally stopped.

Events like this take months of preparation and we wouldn't be able to achieve it without volunteers who not only run stalls, helped put up gazebos, take down gazebos, clear everything away and one particular volunteer also organised the entirety of one stall on behalf of the Council and all for the community. The Council would like to thank all the volunteers, we couldn't have achieved this without you!

Our thanks would also like to go to Top2Bottom Commercial Cleaning, The Nook Bistro, M D Wealth Management and Octavius for sponsoring the event.

And finally I want to give a massive thank you to all those that braved the weather and came and supported the event. I hope you enjoyed it. Watch this space for the next Christmas and Summer event.

# Skatepark



The skatepark has been in position now for many years and now that the play area has been revitalised the Council has started to look at a feasibility study on how we can refresh the skatepark and potentially add more items.

Although it is titled the 'skatepark' it is used regularly by bike users and scooters as well as skateboards and the Council would like to keep this in consideration when looking at the future of the skatepark.

A project of this size always takes time, so although I am bringing this to your attention please be aware that this isn't going to occur overnight or even in the next few months. However I would like everyone to know that the condition of the skatepark is on the Council's radar.

The Council have met with a couple of skatepark specialists that are putting together proposals as to how we can improve the skatepark and make it safe and enjoyable to all those that enjoy scootering, biking and of course skateboarding.

I will bring you more updates as and when we know them.

# Making Dog Bins Digital

We are working on a project to add QR codes to all of the dog bins in Long Stratton: Making Dog Bins Digital (MDBD).

This will allow for easier reporting of any issues regarding the dog bins in town.

If you have a mobile device with scanning capabilities, you can open your phone camera and point it at the QR code.

Your phone will then scan this QR code and bring up a link you can press, which will take you directly to the issues page for dog bins on our website.

From there, you can fill in the feedback form and we will receive this information and can act on it.

We will create a tutorial for how to use these closer to the end of the project, and there will always be alternative options available for reporting issues.

These options being:

- Calling the office: 01508 530524
- Emailing the office: [office@longstrattontowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:office@longstrattontowncouncil.gov.uk)



# What your Town Council does

## Playing fields

We look after the MUGA, skate park, play area and trim trail, CCTV, BMX track, litter picking, grass and hedge cutting and any other matter relating to the playing field.



## Pavilion

On going maintenance, pavilion bookings, out of hours service for hirers, CCTV, public toilets, defibrillator.

## Street furniture and facilities

Benches, notice boards, bus shelters, Swan Lane public toilets, defibrillators, SAM2 (x2), Town sign, Manor Road telephone box, Town plain, open space by footpath 12, dog bins and litter bins (emptied by South Norfolk District Council), grit bins (filled by Norfolk County Council), 126 streetlights (Norfolk County Council are responsible for the remaining street lights) Christmas motifs, Christmas trees.



## Community Engagement

Summer event, supporting a Christmas event, Neighbourhood Plan, signposting and assisting residents with varied queries, organising Remembrance Day road closure and apparel, youth outreach work and events, providing grants for the community, website, social media, quarterly newsletter and working closely with third parties such as the Police to tackle anti-social behaviour.

The Town Council has the following committees:

## Planning and Highways

The committee meets to discuss and decide on supporting or objecting to planning applications based on material considerations as a statutory consultee. The final decision lays with South Norfolk District Council.

## Events

The committee meets to discuss upcoming events and community engagement.

## Leisure and Pavilion

The committee meets to discuss the maintenance of the playing field, enhancements to public open space that the Council has control of and all matters relating to the pavilion.

## Finance and Policy Management

The committee meets to discuss all budgetary matters and reviews the Council's policies.

## Staffing Committee

The committee meets to discuss all matters HR.

## Action Group

The committee meets to discuss how to enhance Long Stratton as a place to live, how to support residents and to discuss securing funding to support this. All items on the Action Plan has been derived from parishioners from the Neighbourhood Plan. Actions can be added to the plan at any time as and when a need is identified.



The Committees meet a minimum of 4 times a year except for staffing that meet when a need arises. In addition to this the Full Council meets every second Monday of the month at 7pm in the Town Council Pavilion apart from August.

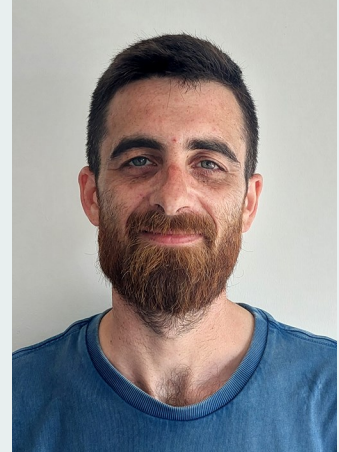
## MEET MARTIN

Martin is the Council's new Direct Services Officer. He recently joined us in July and is responsible for maintaining and looking after the Council's assets and open spaces.

His responsibilities include, maintaining the playing fields and other Council owned open spaces through grass cutting, hedge cutting and strimming. Maintaining and repairing play areas including the skate park. Maintaining the public toilets both at Swan Lane and the Pavilion. Ensuring the Council assets are in good condition and carrying out repairs where necessary.

Martin will often be seen carrying out his role in the Council van.

Don't hesitate to mention to him if you see something Council owned that needs his attention.



# Community room for hire

Need a venue for a birthday party? Or how about somewhere for meetings? Or do you run a club and need a venue? The community room at the Pavilion is modern, bright and spacious and is available to hire during the day, evenings and weekends.

It has kitchen facilities, WIFI and free parking is available.

If you would like to make a booking or would like to come and have a look around then please call 01508 530524,

or e-mail **[office@longstrattontowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:office@longstrattontowncouncil.gov.uk)**



## **OFFICE OPENING HOURS**

**MONDAYS, TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS**

**10AM-2PM**

**CLOSED WEDNESDAYS**

(Please be aware that staff work flexible hours and therefore may not always be available, therefore it is recommended an appointment is made first on the contact details on the front page)

**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

Website - [www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk](http://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk)

- 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