

# Winter

## Long Stratton News

### WELCOME TO THE WINTER 2026 EDITION

I would like to thank the organisers of the Christmas Community Event that took place on the 6<sup>th</sup> December. Events take up to a year to plan and organise and there are lots of different elements to consider and the organisers worked tirelessly to put on a fantastic event for the community, without their time and commitment the Christmas event would not have happened so a massive thank you.

Now the bypass is open we have seen a reduction in traffic in the heart of Long Stratton, unfortunately this has meant that some drivers feel that they can now speed through the town, please don't. The Council are taking steps to tackle this, we have limited powers however we aim to gather evidence to pass to the police who do have powers to prosecute.

High Streets Matter. The Council are working with Norfolk County Council looking at how we can support local businesses, this is very much a project that will be ongoing however, we are committed to working with local businesses to help them thrive.

With Local Government Reorganisation on the horizon there is a lot of uncertainty in Local Authority's. Many of the decisions are coming from Central Government. Central Government are now considering whether Norfolk will have 1, 2 or 3 unitary Councils. Whatever decision is made, Long Stratton Town Council is not a part of Local Government Reorganisation and we continue to deliver essential services.

Council officers are very busy in the office, they are working on a number of projects and consultations on needed infrastructure and the renovation of the skatepark are ongoing and we appreciate your views.

Kelly Lunness, Chairman of Long Stratton Town Council



#### Long Stratton Town Council

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

January 2026

#### MEET YOUR COUNCIL

**Chairman**

**Councillor**

**Kelly Lunness**

**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**

**Fiona Lawrence**

# Community Christmas Event 2025



Long Stratton Community Christmas Event 2025 champions local businesses and celebrates community togetherness.

Long Stratton was transformed into a festive celebration on Saturday 6th December as the town came together for the Christmas Event 2025, a day dedicated to supporting local businesses, keeping the high street alive and celebrating the strength of community spirit.

For the first time in many years, the high street was closed to traffic, creating a safe, vibrant space where residents could wander freely, enjoy entertainment and connect with the shops and services that form the heart of the town. The road closure also set the stage for the debut of the 'Light Up Stratton Parade', a magical procession of lanterns, lights, families, community groups and local businesses.



At its core, the event carried a clear message 'Long Stratton's High Street Matters'. Organisers emphasised the importance of shopping local, supporting independent traders and recognising the businesses that keep the town thriving all year round. From stallholders and shopkeepers to cafés and service providers, local businesses played a central role in making the event a success.



Heartfelt thanks were extended to every business that took part, donated, sponsored, or simply opened their doors with festive warmth. Their commitment is vital to keeping the high street strong and ensuring Long Stratton remains a connected, flourishing community.

Organisers also expressed sincere gratitude to the Town Council, whose support and cooperation were essential in making the road closure, parade and full programme of activities possible. Their partnership helped bring this long awaited celebration to our town.

The event further showcased the power of teamwork. Dedicated volunteers and marshals worked tirelessly to manage the road closure, guide visitors and keep the day running smoothly. Their efforts, combined with the enthusiasm of residents created an atmosphere of unity, pride and celebration.

Thanks to the generosity of everyone who attended, the event raised over £1,100 for Bike Active Norfolk, supporting inclusive cycling opportunities for people of all abilities.

The Long Stratton Christmas Event 2025 was more than a festive gathering it was a proud reminder of what can be achieved when a community stands together to support its high street, its businesses and each other. Organisers are already looking ahead to next year inspired by the success of the 6th December and the renewed sense of togetherness it brought to the town.

Thank you, Liga  
(on behalf of the Community Christmas Committee)



**Long Stratton Town Council would like to say a huge thank you to Netherton for allowing us to put up the Councils Christmas tree on their premises this year and for supplying the electric.**



We are hearing a lot of concerns regarding speeding in the town.

For the safety of people and animals please watch your speed on all roads in the area.

We have requested a grant to allow us to buy an additional SAM2 machine which records vehicle movements, times and speed levels.

We have also requested additional SAM2 locations which has to be approved by Norfolk County Council, these locations will be at several different positions down The Street.

Information recorded is taken to the Councils Planning committee meetings and then sent to the police.

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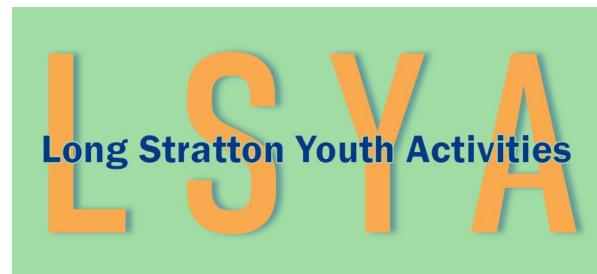
## **Norfolk's High Streets Matter—Retail Excellence Programme**

What's on offer:

- Free, impartial targeted training and support for local retailers
- Mix of online and in person workshops
- Further support and opportunity to join the follow up 'Retail High Growth' programme

For further information please email: [nhsm@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:nhsm@norfolk.gov.uk)

Or visit: [www.newangliagrowthhub.co.uk/norfolk-high-streets-matter/](http://www.newangliagrowthhub.co.uk/norfolk-high-streets-matter/)



Thank you to all the young people and staff who made the trip to Pleasurewood Hills Theme Park in the October half term such a great day out. Spirits remained high despite the weather being a bit on the damp side, not that it made a difference to our group who had already thoroughly soaked themselves on the water rides! Other than enjoying all the rides, we had fun interacting with creepy crawlies and eating donuts, although not all at the same time :)

In November we had great fun in the latest Nintendo Switch tournament playing Super Smash Bros.



Then in December we had fun making and decorating gingerbread, baubles and other Christmas tree decorations whilst filling up on hot dogs, cocktail sausages and lots of sweet and savoury snacks. We also challenged ourselves with some festive themed word searching.



A special thanks goes to Leela Connor 🎉 who gave us the gift of a piece of artwork she created to brighten up the wall of the Pavilion's clubroom where we meet. This beautiful piece is called 'Diversity', representing the diverse people who come to the Youth Cafes and is now up on the wall for all to see.

Contact Anastasia Twigg on  
[anastasia.twigg@longstrattontowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:anastasia.twigg@longstrattontowncouncil.gov.uk)

Or call 07743 938147

Facebook @Anastasia Twigg Youthworker or  
@lsyouthactivities.

Follow us on social media for updates

@LSYOUTHACTIVITIES



**Funded by  
UK Government** (Funded by South Norfolk Council Pride in Place)



# Public Consultations

## Infrastructure for Long Stratton

Please let us know what infrastructure you think Long Stratton needs in this continuing survey. Now the bypass is complete we are looking ahead to the 1800 home development and the hugely important need for infrastructure.

Let us know your thoughts by scanning the QR code which will take you to the webpage where you will find the survey. Alternatively, we have paper copies available in the Pavilion and the library.

Or contact us and we will send one out to you.



## Skate park

Stage one of the skatepark survey went well, thank you for taking the time to complete the survey.

Support is there for a new skatepark and pump track so we are now continuing with phase two which will look into design and grant funding.



## **Love Thy Neighbour: Long Stratton Community Project**

Do you feel lonely? Would you like some company for a cuppa and a chat? Or do you have time yourself to visit a neighbour?

We are looking to start a new campaign to connect people in times of need.

More information will become available on our website.



## **Lost property**

Daily checks are carried out for any lost property on the playing fields, children's play areas, MUGA, skatepark, gym and in the Pavilion toilets. All items are kept safely in the Town Councils office, we do try to reunite items via posts on Facebook, on our website and by contacting the schools. If you're ever unsure where you may have left something don't hesitate to ask us.



In December a group of young people who attend the Long Stratton Youth Activities Youth Club, worked with our direct services officer, Tom, to plant a variety of trees, including silver birch, hazel and blackthorn in the wooded area of Manor Road Playing fields.

These were generously donated by the Woodland Trust.



**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 as possible 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, the address is on the first page.**

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

## **KEY CONTACTS**

**Town Council office - 01508 530524**

**South Norfolk Council - 01508 533701**

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

- **Bins**
- **Council tax**
- **Housing**

**Norfolk County Council - 0344 800 8020**

- **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**