

Long Stratton News

WELCOME TO THE WINTER 2025 EDITION

Christmas has passed, and we are nearly through January already. The Council are busy getting prepared for the Summer which is going to be earlier this year on May 10th to coincide with May Day celebrations. More information on this will come later in the year.

The Council were pleased to sponsor the Community Christmas event this year. It was a wonderful celebration and the Council would thank the event organisers for doing a fantastic job in bringing Long Stratton together during the festive period.

Long Stratton Town Council are working with a group known as the Long Stratton Enterprise Partnership (LSEP). The aim of the LSEP is to bring Long Stratton vibrant once the bypass has been completed. We are currently reaching out to local businesses and eventually will be looking for any residents would like to be involved, so if you are a local business that would like to be involved please contact the office on the details below, and if you are a resident then please watch this space. In our last newsletter, we welcomed Fiona Lawrence to the Council. We have already volunteers within the community and we are pleased to have her on board.

Ben Hennessey, Chairman of Long Stratton Town Council.

MEET YOUR COUNCILLORS

Chairman

Councillor

Kelly Lunne

Vice-Chairman

Councillor

Mat Pochin

Councillor

Andrew Lansbury

Councillor

David Williams

Councillor

Katrina Thompson

Councillor

Helen Dickers

Councillor

Judith Baker

Councillor

Louise Mundell

Councillor

Robin Ciorra

Councillor

Susan Smith

Councillor

Justin Harrison

Councillor

Florence Morin

Councillor

Fiona Lawrence



Long Stratton Town Council

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

Tel: 01508 530524



were pleased to be able to support the local foodbank by donating presents for primary age school children.

Jay, on behalf of the Council, took them to the foodbank in early December to ensure that no family missed out.

We are really pleased to be supporting worthy causes like the foodbank.

Long Stratton Christmas Community Lunch

We would like to say a huge thank you to all who organised this year's Christmas Day lunch, and to all who so kindly donated and volunteered their time.

Such wonderful community spirit and enjoyed by all!



The Town Council has been asked many times on what their position is in regards to East Pye Solar. It is not an easy question to answer as the information that has come from East Pye Solar has been lacking any real depth.

The Council is committed to doing the best for our residents and there are some residents that will be impacted by the proposal which will be reviewed before any decision is provided. The Council has agreed to support the neighbouring parishes such as Hempnall that are adversely affected by the proposals.

The Council has resolved to wait until the Environmental Impact Assessment has been completed and the formal consultation takes place over the summer months.

As a subject matter that the Council will be following closely and we will ensure that we keep the residents of Long Stratton updated as soon as new information comes to light. We will post updates to our website.

The big news to share is the plans for **Devolution and Local Authority Reorganisation**.

Devolution is when Central Government devolve powers to an authority of a particular size with an elected Mayor who will oversee all decisions made. The elected Mayor would then have a seat within central government.

Norfolk County Council has expressed an interest and if successful would then combine with Suffolk County Council. Local Authority Reorganisation will see the District and Borough Councils that come under Norfolk and Suffolk reorganised to create 1, 2 or 3 large authorities which could include the combined Norfolk and Suffolk County Councils.

This is a massive reorganisation with a short time frame to come up with a viable proposal for Central Government to review and either amend or accept.

As a result of this, County Council elections have been postponed. This is to interfere with democratic processes, but if Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation progresses, it could see the election of a Mayor in 2026 and all Councillors will cease in their roles and will then have to be considered for re-election.

The decision to postpone is to save tax payers money as there will be an election once the Mayor is elected.

Long Stratton Youth Activities

Had a Mario Kart tournament on the Nintendo Switch on Wednesday 11th December 2024 at the Youth Café.

A close final, but only one could win. Congratulations to Oscar Wood, winner of our first Mario Kart tournament!

Big well done for all the young people who took part in the tournament. We will see you at the next one!



On the 23rd of December 2024 Long Stratton Youth Activities ran a 'Junior' Trip to Norwich Puppet Theatre to see Sleeping Beauty, the year's puppet panto.

There was a lot of jokes, both visual and verbal, which made us all laugh and we enjoyed looking at all the fantastic puppets in the panto and around the theatre.

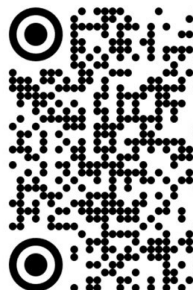
We also visited Norwich Cathedral briefly to look at the trees before getting the bus back to Long Stratton.

Please also check out our Facebook page and Instagram for updates



Follow us on social media for

@LSYOUTHACT



Funded by

Stratton, you truly shine! As we welcome the joy of Christmas, we are reminded that the season embodies love, gratitude, and appreciation—moments we cherish with our ones, friends, family, and neighbours.

ear, we celebrated the second annual Long Stratton Community Christmas Event 2024, a great initiative brought to life by our local businesses, the Town Council, and enthusiastic volunteers. It was a beautiful sight to see St. Mary's Church filled with families and friends enjoying enchanting performances, supporting local pop-up stalls, and contributing to various charitable causes. The Queens Head was alive with Christmas cheer, where children had the magical chance to meet Santa Claus! Numerous local businesses also contributed to the festivities with photo booths, holiday crafts, face painting, angel card readings and a host of other fun activities. Despite the weather warnings, the day was vibrant with joy and camaraderie.

A special thank you to the main organisers The Queens Head, St Mary Church and MD Wealth Management. Thank you to our volunteers Michelle, Mr Rochester, Liga and Town Councils, Jess and Molly for your time, energy and hard work. Special thank you to sponsors The Craft, Colorcote LTD, Mixer Man and Dark Force Comics.

Volunteers and people who are passionate about the community where our children are growing up we genuinely believe that we can achieve greater things when we support one another, build trust and celebrate our shared experiences.

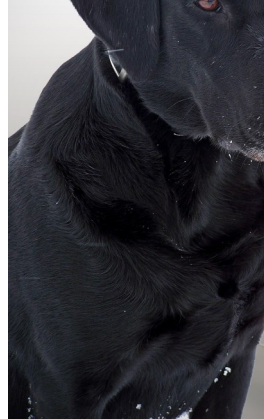
Looking forward to an even more enchanting 2025!

If you're interested in participating, sharing your time, or have ideas for next year's Christmas celebration, please feel free to contact us at lschristmas@outlook.com. Let's work together to create even more unforgettable memories!

Long Stratton Christmas committee



the gym area, the Council have temporarily decided to close the gym area during the week at dusk. The Public Spaces Protection Order prevents dogs from being in a public confined area where children may be present. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause for users of the outdoor gym. Please also do not let dogs in the children's play area, the multi use games area (muga) or the skate park.



We understand dogs play an important part in people's lives and having an area to exercise is a vital part of a dog's life. Many of us on the Council work for the Council and there are plenty of surrounding fields that can be utilized and as and when land becomes available to the Council we will be looking for a dog dedicated space.

VANDALISED TOMMYS

We are deeply saddened to learn that four of our five Tommy figurines for Remembrance Day have been vandalised and damaged. The knives have been cut off.

We will now have to replace these at cost to the Council.

The locations for these were:

Memorial Garden on Swan Lane
The Village Hall
The Methodist Church
The Village Plain

If you have any information about this incident or possibly CCTV footage, please let us know in one of the following ways:

Email: office@longstrattontowncouncil.gov.uk

Phone: 01508 530524

Facebook messenger
Instagram DMs

Visit our office and speak to us during open hours (Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri 10:00 - 14:00)



the Council to purchase 10 flood barriers to be used in times of flooding. The barriers link together and suction to the ground so there is no wind and will control the flow of water effectively to a desired location. As we are still working on a more permanent solution, this is a great step in tackling flooding.

As the barriers to be accessible to those that need them therefore it is discussed where the barriers are to be stored, currently they are at the pavilion and we will monitor the weather for cases in which they could be used and make relevant plans to make sure they are available for use until a date is identified.

Pavilion Hire

For everyone the Council are feeling the cost of living increases and it is with this in mind that the Council have had to review the cost of hiring the Pavilion. The costs are as follows:

For all residents who are holding an event such as a children's birthday party the cost will be £12.50 per hour including set up and down.

For clubs, societies and local community groups the cost will be £15 per hour.

For businesses the cost will be £17.50 per hour.

The Council reserves the right to increase the costs depending on the activity. There may be a need for a deep clean before and after hire and for a member of staff to be on call.

A £50 refundable damage deposit for all hirers.

One date Summer community event to celebrate VE day Friday 10th May 2025

We are working hard behind the scenes to put on a fabulous (and hopefully dry) event for all to enjoy. If you would like to have a stall or you are someone who would like to have a stall please get in touch. We are looking for as many varied stalls so that there is something for everyone to enjoy. Please save the date!

10AM-2PM

CLOSED WEDNESDAYS

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)

s newsletter
your interest?
e something
a would like to
more about?
e something
a would like to
he next
tter or on the

get in contact,
sletter is
ed to provide
h information
he important
ong Stratton
ouncil are
nd the
s are, if you
query, other
ts will have
ne query.

take the time
a look at the
e, address is on
t page.

k forward to
g from you.

KEY CONTACTS

Town Council office - 01508 530524

South Norfolk Council - 01508 533701

Website - 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
Rosemaryaf.bennett@btinternet.com

Long Stratton Medical Partnership - 01508 530781