

### North Norfolk Big Society Fund

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Voluntary and community organisations within North Norfolk may apply for Big Society Fund grants to support their projects. Full information including contact details are given in the Fund's page on the District Council website <http://bit.ly/cllr-fitzpatrick-BSE>. It is worth making contact at an early stage to discuss your application. The officers are very happy to give help and advice with any application.

The next sitting of the panel is on 4<sup>th</sup> September. Closing date for applications is 7<sup>th</sup> August 2017

It really does make a difference. Well Town Tennis Club opened their new clubhouse on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July. This was partially funded by a Big Society Fund grant. One of the 192 awards since the fund began!

### Rate Relief “Specialists”

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Applications for a reduction in business rates are free – there is no need to pay.

We have seen a worrying rise in the number of local businesses who seem to be persuaded into signing contracts with third parties to apply for small business rate relief. These contracts can cost you dearly. Such contracts are not required as the application process is free. Using a third party will not “help your case” and hence could be a waste of money. Charges can be 50% plus VAT of any savings made.

For further information or to apply (for free) please visit <http://bit.ly/cllr-vfitzpatrick-SBR>

### New Pre-Application Advice Service

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The first phase of NNDC's pre-planning advice service is now live. This phase introduces an improved pre-planning advice service for householder, small residential and small commercial developments.

The new service offers a single point of access and way of dealing with pre-application advice requests. Pre-application advice requests will be primarily submitted via an online form, alternatively they can be provided with a hard copy. Customer services will be trained to assist customers to complete their pre-application documentation. The benefits include clear advice on the likelihood of obtaining planning permission (before engaging an agent), a written response from Planning, advice can be factored into the planning application and the ability to choose the level of service required.

Please visit the pre-advice pages - <http://bit.ly/cllr-vfitzpatrick-PPA> - on the NNDC website.

### Greenbuild – Call for Exhibitors

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Greenbuild's thirteenth outing will be at Felbrigg Hall, near Cromer, on September 9th and 10th this year. It is designed to show people how to lead a greener lifestyle in an affordable and practical way.

Are you a business which deals in renewable technology, green energy, environmentally friendly crafts or any other type of 'green' activity? Or perhaps you run a farmers' market stall, selling cakes, jams, chutneys and other tasty goods? Then Greenbuild may well be right up your street.

For further information, on being an exhibitor, visit [www.north-norfolk.gov.uk/greenbuild](http://www.north-norfolk.gov.uk/greenbuild) or contact Jeanette Wilson on [jeanette.wilson@north-norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:jeanette.wilson@north-norfolk.gov.uk) or 01263 513811.

### Litter

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A ward constituent recently raised the subject of litter with me and it seems worth mentioning that NNDC has worked with 107 local communities in the last year. These litter picks help to keep our beaches, villages and towns clear of rubbish. The Council supports the picks in the form of rubbish bags, bin bag hoops and litter pickers and we take away the rubbish collected.

NNDC's Environmental team has recently started working with a Youth Offending programme and the Probation Service to coordinate community litter picking and general amenity work across our communities.

### In Brief

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- NNDC Wind turbine victory – A planning inspector's decision to allow turbines at Bodham and Selbrigg has been quashed
- NNDC Cabinet has approved innovative "landscaping" proposal for Bacton and Walcott.
- The Empty Homes Innovation Award has been given to NNDC for its innovative approach
- The planning inspector has dismissed an appeal against NNDC refusal to grant planning permission for 200 homes in Sculthorpe
- Big Belly bins installed at Wells and Cromer.
- Best Council tax collection performance in a decade.

Councillor Vincent FitzPatrick

Priory Ward

<https://www.north-norfolk.gov.uk>