

### **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-BSF>. 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 Panel will sit on June 2018 and the application cut-off date will be announced.

### **NNDC Car Parks – New Payment Method**

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An extra method for paying at North Norfolk District Council car parks has been introduced. As well as the standard cash and card payments, drivers can now use their mobile devices to pay.

There are various routes to access the system, including an app, a QR code and by text message. Detailed instructions will be posted on the tariff boards in all car parks across the district. The process of registering is simple and there will be clear instructions in each car park to help people understand what they need to do.

### **Suspended Jail Sentence for Animal Cruelty**

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A woman has been jailed for 22 weeks – suspended for two years – after pleading guilty to two charges of keeping a dog-breeding establishment without a licence, and a further 15 charges of causing unnecessary suffering to an animal or failing to ensure the welfare of an animal. The woman was sentenced at Norwich Magistrates' Court after being caught in an undercover sting by North Norfolk District Council officers. She was also ordered to pay NNDC's full costs, of £12,616, as well as a victim surcharge.

The woman had been running an unlicensed puppy farm from outbuildings at her home address. Following indications that she was breeding without a licence; North Norfolk District Council officers visited the premises in early 2017 and bought a puppy. A warrant was then obtained and NNDC officers accompanied by the police and a vet returned to the site in February last year.

Last November, the woman pleaded guilty to operating a dog-breeding establishment without a licence but not guilty to several charges relating to animal welfare, and a trial date was set. Since then, a further visit was made to her premises, in January this year, when more evidence of an unlicensed dog-breeding establishment was found. The condition of the premises had deteriorated further, and this visit resulted in further animal-welfare charges and one further dog-breeding charge being brought.

### **Food Safety Training**

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We provide training to help you ensure that your staff are appropriately trained in food hygiene. We offer the CIEH Foundation Certificate in Food Safety. This course is aimed at anyone involved in food

handling in catering; however, many of the principles apply to those who are working in any type of food business. To book your place on this course please call Customer Services on 01263 516189 or download an application form from our website and send it back to us with the relevant fee.

Courses are held at our Cromer offices, at Merchants Place in Cromer, or Fakenham Sports & Fitness Centre and the next courses will take place on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2018 and 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2018. Visit <http://bit.ly/cllr-vfitzpatrick-fst> for more details.

Councillor Vincent FitzPatrick, Priory Ward

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