

AGM Report for Sibbard Ward. Mike Hankins district councilor.

It is now over a year since I was elected as the Liberal Democrat for the ward, as a new councilor it has been a steep learning curve, it is very different in many ways to my previous experience as an International Business Consultant and Director however that experience has been invaluable in dealing with the variety of people issues and in understanding the council processes .

I would like to congratulate, the parish councilors in the 7 parish councils in my ward, they have been in the main well administered, and professionally managed.

I would like to thank you all for a friendly and warm welcome, and your patience in dealing with a Newby, in trying to contribute to some of your local issues.

I have summarized below some of the issues I have been closely involved with.

Fulmodeston

I have attended all of the Parish Council's Liaison Committee meetings set up to hold Banham Poultry to account for the serious environmental issues that have been plagued on the village and the surrounding area.

With the considerable support from the councils environmental team, we have arrested the fly infestation [the warmer weather will confirm] however the fan noise from the chicken farm continues to be a serious concern.

Ryburgh

The resignation of virtually the whole parish council necessitated an election of new officers and parish councilors, this is now up and running albeit with an interim secretary provided by the County Council.

I am working with officers to support the proposed Community Project to attempt to purchase the Ryburgh Blue Boar Public House as a Community managed Public House , very similar to what was achieved with the local shop.

I have been involved with both Crisp Maltings and the parish council in understanding the objections to the proposed TPO aimed at reducing the HGV traffic through the village, at the time of writing this has not been resolved.

Planning Applications.

I am alerted to all the planning applications that are raised for the Stibbard ward, in the last year most have been approved within the target period, there are two exceptions in the ward, however.

In Hindolveston an application to convert a disused cottage in to residential occupation has experienced planning difficulties. I have investigated the application through site visits and officer discussions, and now believe it may be necessary to call the application in for debate at the development committee.

An application to build 7 new affordable houses in the Swanton Novers village has been held up by the legislation appertaining to the nutrient neutrality directive.

This is a county wide issue, nevertheless I have raised this at every opportunity, at long last the consortium of Norfolk councils charged with this issue, has now agreed to make a presentation to NNDC, O&S committee of their plans to mediate this issue.

Postal Deliveries

I am now in the process of requesting the council O&S committee to invite the Post Office Management to explain their plan to improve their delivery performance, this is a particular issue in parts of the Stibbard ward.

Sennowe Park Event.

The organizers have now launched their consultation ahead of this year's event.

Details are contained in a separate notice.

Please feel free to comment, make suggestions on this report ,your input will be very welcome.

CLlr Mike Hankins.

Liberal Democrat representative for the Stibbard Ward of NNDC.

Serving the parishes of:

Fulmodeston , Great Ryburgh, Hindolveston, Ketestone ,Sibbard, Swanton Novers , and Wood Newton

Chairman of the Planning Policy and Built Heritage Working Party.

Member of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Member of the Development Committee.