

### **Saving Lives – 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

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The RNLI, the charity that saves lives at sea, first teamed up with North Norfolk District Council in 2007 to provide beach patrols at Cromer, Sheringham, Mundesley and Sea Palling. A decade later, the service has expanded along the East Anglia coast to 16 beaches, including at West Runton, East Runton and Wells in North Norfolk, as well as beaches in the Great Yarmouth area and Suffolk.

Having lifeguards on duty when North Norfolk is at its busiest means visitors and residents can have peace of mind while enjoying our beautiful coastline. For example, In 2015, lifeguards rescued 10 people in three hours from Wells beach after bathers got caught out by strong currents. More details at <http://bit.ly/cllr-vfitzpatrick-wells-rescue>

### **NNDC Enforcement**

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We are keen that long term empty properties are brought back into use rather than lying empty. At the Full Council meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2016, a budget for the compulsory purchase of long term empty properties was agreed. It should be noted that compulsory purchase will only be used in the last resort as we would prefer to find mutually acceptable solutions with the property owners.

### **Whitsun 2016**

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A brochure giving details of sports & country events and activities during the Whitsun break is available on the NNDC website at <http://bit.ly/NNDC-Whitsun>

### **North Norfolk Big Society Fund**

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The fund makes capital grants of up to £15,000 to voluntary and community organisations within North Norfolk. Grants have been awarded to a diverse range of projects. Applicants do not need to ask for the full £15,000 – applications for smaller amounts are equally welcome. If you know of any organisation that may benefit, then please get them to apply.

Full details are given in the Fund's page on the District Council website: <http://bit.ly/cllr-vfitzpatrick-BSF>. Help and advice is available from the Officers (telephone: 01263 516173; email: [supporting.communities@north-norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:supporting.communities@north-norfolk.gov.uk)).

Applications for the June sitting of the Big Society Fund Grant Panel have now closed. I will advise you of application closing date for the next panel sitting.

Councillor Vincent FitzPatrick  
Priory Ward