

## Newsletter

### North Norfolk Big Society Fund

Eleven grants totalling more than £80,000 were made at the March meeting of the Big Society Fund Grant Panel. This means 183 BSF grants have been awarded totalling £1,439,526.87 since the fund started in 2012.

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/2mMd4Zz>. 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.

Please apply by the 8<sup>th</sup> of May to have your application considered by the Big Society Fund Grant Panel on the 5<sup>th</sup> May 2017.

### NNDC Budget

At our meeting on 22 February, NNDC approved the 2017/18 budget. This budget is both prudent and fair. Prudent – the budget produces a surplus which helps to maintain reserves which gives the Council greater financial reliance. Fair – NNDC Council Tax is frozen for the seventh year. This is a great help to those on fixed and perhaps limited incomes.

### Commercialisation of Assets – Planning for the Future.

NNDC is in a sound financial position but it must be prudent and plan for a future where available funding will be severely challenged. To this end, Cabinet approved the appointment of a consortium to advise the Council on Commercialisation of assets. The aim is to produce a future income stream from assets for the long term benefit of residents. Where assets are being sold, this will finance the purchase of other income generating assets. We are **not** selling off the family silver!

You might be aware that the toilet site at Beach Road in Wells has been identified as a potential revenue generating asset. NNDC Cabinet agreed at its last meeting to establish a Working Party with representatives from Wells Town Council to determine what type – if any – of development would be appropriate for this site. This group will meet over the course of six months.

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