

Agenda item 21

District Cllrs Karen Roberts and Peter Harris Report for May 2024

There have only been two meetings of Committees since our last report, details are on the Council's website - see the Council-Calendar of Meetings for links to each of the papers and reports.

Leisure Centre

The Leisure Centre is the subject of a Cabinet report on May 14, after this report is drafted. We will report to the meeting of issues that arise from any decisions taken by the Cabinet. The Leader of the Council under Executive powers has replaced three of the six N&SDC reps on the Leisure Centre Trust with non-councillors of his own choosing.

Kerbside Glass Recycling

The kerbside glass recycling service has now been implemented. There has been disappointingly little publicity about this, and this is something that we will be following up and hope to appraise members of changes to the bottle bank network.

Previously bottle banks were commercially operated but with the NSDC service from the kerbside, the Council will now collect glass, take it to the transfer station on the lorry park and then sell on in our own right, thereby offsetting some of the costs of introducing the service

The Company will no longer be providing bottle banks and is in the process of removing them from sites across the district. However, following intervention by us, the Council will operate a small number of banks - the 8 sites are: Co-Op & Leisure Centre: Southwell, Co-Op, London Road car park & Waitrose: Newark, Fernwood village Hall, Health Centre Collingham, Village Hall, Lowdham. These new bins will be owned and operated by the Council, and glass collected from these banks will be added into the glass we collect from the kerbside.

Audit and Governance Committee

The Auditors reported to the meeting with no issues to be recorder.

The Committee is reviewing two matters soon. Firstly, how petitions are handled at the Council following on from an unsatisfactory handling of the 2500+ signature petition on the future of the Swimming Pool. Whilst handed to the Council properly, the petition was not cited on the agenda or read out to the Council so there was little compression of the wording of the petition by Councillors.

Secondly it has become clear that audit is purely an examination of whether the process of the Council were followed – not whether they provide good value for money. This will need to be addressed but it needs an examination of how best to undertake and report on this significant lack of governance control.

Planning Committee

Although the Committee meets after this report is drafted, there are no Southwell and villages matters for determination by the Committee this month.

Council is reminded that due to the procedures being changed [already reported to you], objections to any plans submitted in the area have to be separately communicated to your District Councillors if they are to make any intervention; your council's objections are not, now notified to the N&SDC Ward members.

Kirklington phone box

BT are proposing to remove the payphone from the kiosk on Southwell Road in Kirklington. They have followed the criteria in Ofcoms 'Review of the telephony universal service obligation' which has shown that they can permanently remove the payphone service. [Statement: Review of the telephony universal service obligation \(ofcom.org.uk\)](https://www.ofcom.gov.uk/consult/condocs/telecom/2023/230623/230623.pdf)

Kirklington Village Hall are interested in taking ownership of the kiosk under the Adopt a Kiosk scheme. [Adopt A Kiosk | BT Business](#)

BT have displayed a notice in the kiosk telling people about this plan. Any comments will be taken into account in BT's final decision. Any comments should go to: harriet.partington@newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk by **Friday 14th June 2024**.

Burgage Green, Southwell

A Section 215 Notice has been issued to ensure the long-term viability of the listed building: gateway of the former House of Correction, fronting onto Burgage Green, Southwell. The schedule of works outlined should be complied with in full within 3 months of 10th May 2024.

General information

Suzanne Shead from NSDC: ...the final payments for Business & Community grants following the flood support for Storm Henk on Friday were made on 12th April.

113 residents helped with £56,500 of Gov't grants and £12,360 of County Council top-up hardship grant. 24 businesses helped with £60,000 of Gov't grants and £7,200 of County top-up hardship grant. 115 residents Council Tax Relief of £65,395 and 16 businesses, Business Rates Relief of £57,811, (please note that the amount of Council Tax relief is not final as not all residents have moved back home yet, so additional relief may be given where appropriate).

Unfortunately, some residents remain displaced whilst repair works are ongoing to their homes and whilst the financial support has come to an end there is much still to do and plenty of cross team working is in place as we look to improve our flood response both within the Council and with other partners including our communities and flood wardens. The County Council continue to lead on the property flood resilience work across Nottinghamshire.

Karen Roberts and Peter Harris