District Councillors Report for Swardeston PC March 2021

The Council Tax will rise by £5 for a band D property for the forthcoming financial year. This represents a 3.2% increase. Other Tax bands will increase pro rata.

The District Direct Project which has been in place for some three years and was initiated by officials at South Norfolk Council and yours truly has secured agreed funding for the foreseeable future. It had been proved difficult previously to get the various stakeholders to agree this. The project covers roughly the area of The Greater Norwich Development Board. The objective is to promote the early discharge from hospital for those people who may have difficulty returning to their own homes because of unsuitable conditions there. The Council has appointed trained staff who can make assessments in hospital and who can recommend appropriate home adaptations, etc. In addition The Council has received substantial funding from The Better Care Fund to enable home adaptations to be done. Matters of concern in this respect can be made direct to The Council.

There is considerable residual flooding in the area due to a high water table. The Lead Local Flood Authority is investigating reports that it receives. The process is likely to be slow due to the numbers of properties involved.

Preparatory work on the Thickthorn interchange construction has commenced. The main work is not scheduled to commence until January 2023

On a lighter note South Norfolk Council performs some 86 individual functions, some of which are Statutory such as refuse collection. It will claim to be “ahead of the game” in most, if not all of these.

Nigel Legg