

District Councillor Report – James Eddy

Obviously, the main event of the last few weeks has been the County Council Elections that took place on the 7th May. As we've all seen change is afoot locally and what that means for Norfolk as a whole will undoubtedly be interesting to observe. As an extension of this I would therefore like to offer my congratulations to Jonathan Boyd on his victory and hope that he will serve this parish well during his time as a County Councillor.

As I've said before, it is my belief that the act of voting is in some ways more important than who we actually vote for. As a result, it was good to see that the voter turnout on this occasion was relatively high for a local election. Even so, given that around fifty percent of registered voters didn't vote in the election, there is still a lot of room for improvement. Clearly, parties and candidates can do more to better engage with the public. While voting and democracy remain a privilege, I can certainly understand why people can feel disaffected by the process and the options they are presented with.

As you may be aware I was standing in the East Depwade ward at the election, with perhaps predictable results given the current political climate. Despite this, I'm obviously still here representing you as your District Councillor for the next year or so. Although, honestly what happens after that with regard to local government is anyone's guess at this stage. I fully expect that local government reorganisation is going to be a pretty constant sideshow in the next twelve months. With that in mind, I will try not to lose sight of what is most important in all this: representing all of you at South Norfolk Council to the best of my ability until the end of my term in office.

With this in mind, if you need any help with anything council related then please feel free to contact me at james.eddy@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk or visit me at my next councillor surgery at Harleston Information Plus on Saturday 30th May between 10am and 12.

All the best,

James