

District Councillor Report – James Eddy

It is pleasing to see that after a bit of a delay, the hard work of various groups at Redenhall graveyard is really starting to become clear to visitors again. As always this must be taken as a work in progress and there are undoubtedly things that can be done to further improve the process of maintaining the standards at the graveyard. Nevertheless, there is a need to acknowledge the improvements that have been made in the last few years, which has provided a platform to make things even better in the years ahead.

As many of you will have noticed, following the fire at one of the electrical vehicle charging points on the Co-op car park, the entirely sensible decision to move them further away from housing has been made and implemented. Unfortunately, it has been brought to my attention that this change has had the unintended consequence of limiting disabled access to these charging points. This highlights a significant issue within local government. Sadly, when it comes to planning and many other areas of council work disabled access appears to be something of an afterthought.

I have been doing some work on this for some time but evidently I need to accelerate this and see if more can be done to make sure that the needs of disabled members of our community have greater weight. There are limitations to what can be done but it increasingly seems that, while comprising a large number of people, the disabled remain a significantly marginalised group in society and even in our community. This is something that needs to change and it is something that I need to do a better and more successful job advocating for.

If you would like my help with any issues in the ward then feel free to email me at james.eddy@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk or pop in to see me at my next councillor surgery at Harleston Information Plus on the last Saturday of every month between 10am and 12.

All the best,

James