DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT FOR STODY WARD – JUNE TO JULY 2026

As we progress the new civic year since May, I want to report on the main workstreams behind the scenes at the Council as follows:-

1. **Local Plan**. We are progressing with further work requested by the Planning Inspector to the adopted plan last December including launching a new call for development sites under way now until 13 July.
2. **Household waste and food recycling**. Monitoring the volume of household collections via education programs and introducing food waste collection by 1 February 2027. Looking into separate plastic and flexi film collections.
3. **Coastal Protection Schemes**. Cromer and Mundesley main pioneer scheme work completed. Enviro Agency have allocated further grants for revetments and groyne works for Mundesley.
4. **Coastwise erosion management**. Community erosion transition plans to relocate properties at risk of collapse at the coast are well advanced and also work on property demolitions in Happisburgh and relocating the coastal car park.
5. **Rural Position Statement**. Ahead of local government reform, we are undertaking an audit of key rural services like shops, post offices, pubs, village halls, rail, bus and community transport services and mobile & broadband coverage for a baseline assessment recording of such assets to pass to the new planned single authority in April 2028.
6. **Second Homes Council Tax Premium.** The Council is monitoring the impact and expenditure of this income negotiated with the County Council. Income supports acquisition of temporary accommodation and financing affordable homes in the district.
7. **Empty properties.** The Council is reducing long term empty properties via investigation and enforcement of 50 properties last year and our empty rate is 1.44%; better than comparable districts.
8. **Bacton Energy Hub.** This is one of the Uk's principal locations for carbon capture and hydrogen storage to support transition to net zero delivering quality employment and wider economic benefits for East Anglia.
9. **Banking hubs**. The Council continues to work with LINK and Cash Access UK and local partners in market and coastal towns to retain banking and post offices. Services have already been delivered to Holt, Cromer and N Walsham.
10. **Employment land**. Surveys have been commissioned to increase the supply of serviced land or advance factory premises for immediate delivery if external

funding can be secured. A Premier Inn at N Walsham and retail supermarkets in Holt from Lidl and Holt are going through planning thanks to these surveys.

11. **Tourism infrastructure assets**. We are assessing the implications on future management and maintenance of tourism assets (like Cromer Pier) to safeguard them as unitary councils approach and to protect discretionary services (like our public toilets improvement scheme).

Thank you for reading and happy to answer questions before the next meeting.

Cllr Andrew Brown

District Cllr for Stody Ward and County Cllr for Holt Division

June &July/2026