

Your community update

Redenhall with Harleston Town Council

Clerk: Mrs. C. Crane

November 2025



Welcome to our October Community Update

We hope you have been enjoying the beautiful Autumn weather! This newsletter contains lots of updates from the Town Council and we hope you find it informative.

Thank you to Lucy Chenery



Redenhall with Harleston Town Council would like to extend our thanks to Lucy Chenery, who has stepped down from her role as Town Councillor.

Lucy has been a dedicated and passionate advocate for our community, contributing to a wide range of projects and initiatives that have made a real difference to the town. Her approach, collaborative spirit, and commitment to public service have been a true asset to the Council and to Harleston as a whole.

We wish Lucy all the very best in her future endeavours and thank her sincerely for everything she has done for our town.

Interested in Becoming a Town Councillor?

If you're passionate about your community and want to help shape its future, we'd love to hear from you. Being a councillor is a rewarding way to get involved, support local initiatives, and represent the voices of residents.

To find out more or express your interest, please contact us at: enquiries@harleston-tc.gov.uk

Stay up to date!

Ensure you're fully informed by subscribing to the Town Council website for emailed updates at www.harleston-tc.gov.uk and stay connected with quick updates on the Redenhall with Harleston Town Council Facebook page.



Town Councillor 'Drop-In' Surgery:

Don't forget our Town Councillor drop-in surgeries, held from 10 am to 12 noon on the 3rd Saturday of each month at Harleston Information Plus. Your questions and concerns, along with our responses, are featured on the Town Councillor 'Drop-In' Surgery page on our website. It's a great way to stay informed and you find out about the Q&A's here: [Q & A from the May Town Councillor Surgery – Harleston Town Council \(harleston-tc.gov.uk\)](#).

Remembrance Sunday—9th November 2025

The Town Council and the Harleston & District Branch of the Royal British Legion warmly invite all members of the community to join us for the Remembrance Sunday parade and service.

Date: Sunday 9th November

Time: Parade begins at 10:30am

Location: Starting from the Market Place, followed by a service at the War Memorial

This annual gathering is a moment for us all to honour those who have served and sacrificed, and to reflect together as a community. Whether you're marching, observing, or attending the service, your presence is deeply valued.

Due to the recent tragic fire at St John's Church, the Royal British Legion has arranged a Service of Remembrance to be held at London Road Methodist Church, starting at approximately 11:30am, following the War Memorial service.

We're grateful to RBL Branch Padre John Taylor, who has kindly offered to lead this service. It is open to all, though please note that London Road Church seats around 70 people comfortably, so early arrival is recommended.

We also extend our thanks to the Methodist Church for offering a quiet and reflective space for those wishing to continue their remembrance together.

Let us stand together in remembrance.

HARLESTON REMEMBERS

Lest we forget

Sunday 9th November

Join the Harleston and District Branch of the Royal British Legion and Redenhall with Harleston Town Council for Remembrance Sunday.

The parade begins at 10.30am from the Market Place followed by a service at the War Memorial.

This annual gathering is a moment for us all to honour those who have served and sacrificed, and to reflect together as a community. Let us stand together in remembrance.



Important updates and highlights from the Town Council

Christmas Lights – Market Place Update

As you will be aware this year we are having to focus our efforts for Christmas lights on key locations such as the Market Place and War Memorial due to the ongoing safety surveys on the brackets which hold the little Christmas trees. On 23rd October, our appointed contractors visited the Market Place to begin preparations for this year's festive light installation. During their initial setup, they identified that the usual method of securing the lights was no longer suitable due to safety concerns.

Since then, the Town Council has been working closely with the contractors and consultants to explore alternative solutions. Our priority is to ensure that both the Christmas tree and the lights can be installed safely and in time for the festive season.

We remain committed to delivering a display that is not only secure but also joyful and welcoming for all. Thank you for your patience as we work behind the scenes to make Harleston shine bright this Christmas.

Council Website – Update

Following a technical issue caused by a corrupted plugin, several pages were temporarily removed from the Council's website. The Town Council are currently seeking quotes for a new site that meets governance standards and improves accessibility for residents. You may notice that some page links are currently broken—please bear with us whilst we determine next steps. In the meantime if you require any information which cannot be found on our website please contact us at enquiries@harleston-tc.gov.uk.

The Harleston Shed – Community Project

Cllr Mba shared progress at our recent Town Council meeting on The Harleston Shed and its proposed location on the Recreation Ground. The group will begin the planning application process while lease arrangements are developed. The Council's solicitor will draft the lease and a draft of the planning application will be reviewed by councillors before submission.

Bus Shelter Improvements

As part of the Town Council's ongoing improvements, scaffolding will be installed at the bus shelter on Thursday 30th October. This marks the first step in enhancing the shelter's roofing.

From Friday 31st October until Friday 14th November:

- The **bus shelter will be temporarily closed** for safety reasons.
- We're continuing to monitor the situation closely. If it becomes necessary to temporarily close the bus stop to allow the works to proceed, we'll keep you fully informed.

This arrangement follows guidance from Norfolk County Council, who have worked closely with local bus companies to ensure minimal disruption. We will keep you up to date if this information changes.

We appreciate your understanding as we begin this upgrade, and thank you for your continued support in improving our shared spaces.



Important updates and highlights from the Town Council

Flag Bracket Update: Progress and Next Steps

In our last newsletter, we shared an update on the town's flag brackets — the ones that display a wonderful array of flags throughout the year to mark seasons and special occasions. As many of you will be aware, the Town Council has been conducting safety surveys and inspections of its bracket installations following concerns raised about some of the fixings. While this important work is underway, our dedicated volunteer team, Flag Force, has temporarily paused their usual flag displays.

We're pleased to confirm that the first stage of the survey — a visual assessment — is now complete. Thanks to the surveyor's support, we've received a comprehensive report covering every bracket owned by the Town Council. From this, 16 brackets have been identified as suitable for use, many of which are positioned in key locations across the town.

While this number is lower than we'd hoped these 16 can be used for specific occasions and short durations. The Town Council is keen to ensure we can put the flags up by taking a careful, phased approach to ensure safety.

We're already progressing to the next phase, which includes load-bearing calculations for each bracket and an assessment of the building materials they're fixed to. These steps will help us determine which brackets can safely support our fantastic flags and our Christmas lights into the future.

We know how much the flags mean to our community, and this is not a decision taken lightly. We're working hard to complete these checks as quickly as possible — but safety remains our top priority. Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Grant Success – Love Your Market Town

The Council has secured £2,500 for a new 3D Christmas light feature designed to attract visitors and boost social media engagement. While other bids were unsuccessful, plans are underway to strengthen future applications with better data and impact tracking.

Town Councillors Surgery

Your Town Councillors are here to listen! Join us for our next Town **Councillor Drop in Surgery**:

Date: Saturday, 15th November 2025

Time: 10:00am – 12:00pm

Location: Harleston Information Plus, 8 Exchange Street, Harleston, IP20 9AB

What is a Town Councillor Surgery?

Town Councillor surgeries are informal drop-in sessions where residents can speak directly with Town Councillors. Whether you'd like to:

- Raise a local issue or concern
- Ask questions about council services or decisions
- Find out how to get more involved in local matters

...we're here to help.

Who Will Be There?

Saturday's surgery will be hosted by:

- **Cllr Eloise Wilkinson** - part of the Amenities and Facilities Committee
- **Cllr Adrian Brownsea** - Chair of the Finance Committee and part of the Strategy Committee

They'll be available throughout the session to listen, answer questions, and offer support.

Accessibility & Support

If you'd like to request assistance or have any questions ahead of time, please contact the Town Council office during our opening hours using our contact details found here: <https://harleston-tc.gov.uk/contact/>

Please note the Town Councillors Surgery scheduled for 20th December has been cancelled. If you need support please do contact the office who will be happy to help.

Harleston Gym update!

A Fresh Month & New Opportunities!

November is here, and we're thrilled to see the gym remain busy and full of energy as we head into the winter months. Thank you to everyone who continues to support and be part of our fantastic community — your dedication is what makes Harleston Gym such a special place to train, connect, and grow.

New Class Added: Fit 4 Life

We are delighted to announce that, due to popular demand, we have introduced a Fit 4 Life class on Thursday mornings. This session is designed to support long-term strength, mobility, and wellbeing — perfect for those wanting to build confidence in movement, develop balance and stamina, and enjoy a friendly, supportive group environment.

More Classes Coming Soon

But that's not all — with continued strong attendance across our timetable, we're planning to add two more classes very soon. Keep an eye on our noticeboards, socials, and reception updates... exciting things are on the way!

Membership Staying Strong

We're proud to share that membership numbers remain high for this time of year. While many gyms see a seasonal drop-off, our community continues to thrive — proof of the fantastic atmosphere you all help create. Whether you're new to the gym or have been training with us for years, we appreciate every single one of you.

Thank You for Being Part of Harleston Gym

As always, thank you for your ongoing support. The months ahead are shaping up to be full of energy, progress, and community spirit — and we can't wait to share them with you.

Here's to another strong month — see you in the gym!



Have your say!

Formal public consultation on the draft Design Code Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)

South Norfolk Council and Broadland District Council are pleased to announce the formal public consultation on the draft Design Code Supplementary Planning Document (SPD), along with its supporting documents: the Broadland Character Assessment and the Assessment Framework. This is your opportunity to share your views and help shape the future of residential development across our districts. They invite residents, local organisations, technical consultees, developers, parish and town councils, and all interested stakeholders to take part.

Consultation overview

The consultation will run for six weeks, between 9:00am on Monday 27th October 2025 and 5:00pm on Monday 8th December 2025. During this time, you are encouraged to read the draft documents and provide your feedback using our online consultation webform. Your comments and suggestions will play an important role in finalising the Design Code.

How to take part

- Go to South Norfolk Districts Council's website for details <https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/planning/future-development/supplementary-planning-documents/broadland-and-south-norfolk-district-wide-design-codes>
- Read the draft Design Code SPD, Broadland Character Assessment, and Assessment Framework (links below)
- Review the supporting information provided, including FAQs, the Equalities Impact Assessment, and environmental assessments.
- Submit your comments using the online feedback form. Please ensure your feedback is sent before the closing date on 8 December 2025.

All responses received will be considered carefully. The consultation outcome and any proposed changes will be reported back to Cabinet and Full Council before the documents are formally adopted.

Further information

If you have any questions regarding the consultation or the documents, please contact the Place Shaping Team at South Norfolk and Broadland District Councils by emailing localplan.snc@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk or by calling 01508 533633.

Find out more on their website: <https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/planning/future-development/supplementary-planning-documents/broadland-and-south-norfolk-district-wide-design-codes>

East Pye Solar – Targeted Consultation Now Underway

East Solar Pye is holding a **Targeted Consultation** from **22 October to 26 November 2025** to gather feedback on specific changes to the East Pye Solar proposals.

- A range of new documents has been published, including updated maps, an Information Change Note, and an online feedback form. These are available on the [Documents page](#), with further details about the [consultation here](#).
- This consultation builds on previous engagement and will help shape the final Development Consent Order (DCO) application, expected in **early 2026**. The application will include a Consultation Report showing how public feedback has influenced the design.
- Find out more on their website: <https://www.eastpyesolar.co.uk/>

New digital landline support from BT

BT is replacing the UK's old analogue landline network with new digital landlines that work via broadband. This change affects anyone who wants to keep using a landline, especially those with telecare devices, pendant alarms, or additional support needs.

Key points for residents:

- **The switch is free** and most people won't need any installation work.
- **Landlines will connect to your broadband router** instead of the wall socket.
- **Pricing stays the same**, with added benefits like spam call blocking.
- **If you or a loved one uses telecare equipment**, contact your phone provider to ensure compatibility and request support.
- **BT offers free engineer visits** and battery backup units for those who need extra help or have no mobile coverage.
- **No broadband?** BT will offer a dedicated landline service so you can continue using your phone as usual.

BT encourages residents to start conversations with family and neighbours who may need help preparing for the switch. You can find helpful guides and register for support on BT's website: <https://www.bt.com/about/all-ip/connected-together>

Stay Informed with Your Town Council

Want to know what your Town Council is working on? All our meeting agendas and minutes are available online, offering a clear window into the decisions we make and the projects we're pursuing on behalf of Harleston residents.

Whether you're curious about community initiatives, planning updates, or council discussions, it's all just a click away.

Explore the latest updates here: harleston-tc.gov.uk/town-council-minutes

Your town, your council—stay connected.



Visit Harleston Update



Harleston Halloween Fun – Thank You for Joining Us!

Thank you to everyone who joined us for this year's spooktacular Halloween celebrations in Harleston! The town came alive with costumes, creativity, and community spirit as families explored the decorated shop windows, enjoyed trick-or-treating, and took part in the pumpkin trail.

Local businesses went all out with their displays, and the atmosphere was full of festive fun. From creepy crafts to ghostly games, it was a fantastic way to bring people together and celebrate the season.

A huge thank you to everyone who helped make the event a success—including our volunteers, participating shops, and the Visit Harleston team. We loved seeing your photos and costumes—keep sharing them on social media and tagging @VisitHarleston!

We're already looking forward to next year's Halloween magic. Until then, stay safe and keep the community spirit glowing!

Save the Date – Christmas Lights Switch-On!

Get ready to kick off the festive season in style! Our next community event will be the **Christmas Lights Switch-On**, bringing sparkle, cheer, and togetherness to the heart of Harleston.

Join us in the Market Place as we light up the town with dazzling displays, festive music, and plenty of seasonal spirit. It's a wonderful opportunity to celebrate with friends, family, and neighbours—and to support our local businesses as the holiday season begins.

Let's make this year's switch-on magical!



*Visit
Harleston*

*Christmas Tree lights
Switch-on*

FRIDAY

28TH NOVEMBER

HARLESTON TOWN CENTRE

5PM - 7PM

CHRISTMAS
TREE
SWITCH - ON
6:30PM

*park
radio*
The Nation. Your Music

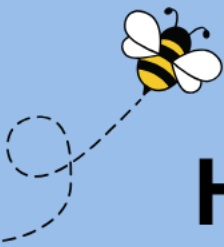
PERFORMANCES
&
ENTERTAINMENT
FROM 5PM

SANTA'S GROTTO
HIP,
EXCHANGE STREET

FOOD
&
DRINK

Scan QR code for details

WWW.VISITHARLESTON.ORG.UK



HARLESTON WELLBEING WALK

**4th Thursday each month,
10.30am-12.30pm**

**Meeting by the 'Welcome to
Harleston' sign, left of Co-op,
Bullock Fair Close**

Join us for a stroll and/or for a cafe
catch up at The Apiary on The
Thoroughfare from 11.30am.

Anyone 16+ welcome, no need to
book. For more info please email
cdcteam@norfolkandwaveneymind.org.uk



for anxiety and depression

