

## District Councillor Report – James Eddy

After a typically quiet August, meetings and training is starting up again at South Norfolk Council. However, the meeting of the Development Management Committee at the beginning of last month, did highlight issues that seem relevant to our particular ward.

What is abundantly clear is that many of the concerns about infrastructure, amenities, and access that are being raised in the Harleston ward are also of concern to the people of many of the other wards in South Norfolk. It goes without saying that these issues have great significance to the people of the town and the surrounding villages and I personally would much prefer that they were given far greater weight when considering planning applications. While housebuilding is hugely important, it seems to me that there is currently a balance that is not being struck between the necessity to build houses, the wishes of communities and, it would also appear, the protection of the local environment. My hope is that going forward, South Norfolk Council will consider seeking a better balance between these competing important needs.

Closer to home, I have enjoyed conducting my councillor surgeries on the last Saturday of each month. The opportunity to interact and try to help members of our community is really why I sought to become a district councillor. Unfortunately, I won't be available on the last Saturday of this month but I can still be contacted by email or phone if anyone requires any help that may be provided by South Norfolk Council.