

## Report 14

During the council meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> May the council leader commenced the meeting with an address, reiterating the commendable performance of Breckland and the Conservative party, this is the usual start to all the main council meetings. The opposition raised inquiries regarding the proposals for the Abbey estate, which are currently disorganized. Although a response was provided, it lacked complete coherence. The Reform Party criticized the planning process in general, specifically highlighting issues related to plans for a pig farm. The response indicated that these processes are proceeding correctly, albeit with a substantial amount of information to be reviewed.

A question was posed about the proposed traveller site on Dereham Road. Development has been halted, and its future is now under review within the planning process. Additionally, there was an inquiry regarding the Breckland homes allowance and its coverage. This fund is designated for purchasing items that enable individuals to remain in their homes.

I became a councillor because of an interest in local government as well as some political ideals. At the midway point of my term, with two years to go, I reflect on my experience as a councillor. It is consistently engaging to observe the mechanisms of local government and understand the factors that contribute to its functionality. The dedicated and diligent staff in the offices play an integral role in ensuring the smooth operation of our local government. They are always ready to provide answers to any questions I may have. The councillors themselves demonstrate commitment, though their actions are often constrained by party governance structures. It surprises me how few councillors control the business of the council with most just voting as they are told. As I look forward to the remaining two years of my term, please feel free to reach out if there is anything you believe I can assist with.