

Community Spirit Shines For Carnival

Diss Carnival 2026 welcomed thousands on 7th June for a day of entertainment, creativity and community spirit. This year's theme, "Game On Diss!", inspired a colourful parade celebrating sports and games. The procession featured 16 floats and entries from local schools, clubs, businesses, charities and community groups, with displays inspired by football, swimming, tennis, basketball, cheerleading, Mouse Trap and Snakes and Ladders.

Celebrations continued in the Park with the popular Fun Day, featuring more than 50 stalls, live entertainment and family fun. Mayor Cllr Declan Craggs thanked everyone who attended, participated, volunteered, sponsored and helped organise the event, praising the community spirit that made the Carnival another great success.



Credit: Diss Express Mark Bullimore

Completed Projects

Environment

- Heritage Wildlife Garden Improvements including new planting and biodiversity enhancements.
- Aquatic planting introduced in the Park to improve biodiversity and water quality.
- Targeted tree works including St Mary's Church visibility improvements and ongoing management planning.



Infrastructure & Facilities

- Park Access Improvements for events and maintenance.
- Removal of redundant planters and installation of new self-watering planters in key town centre locations.

Governance & Funding

- Year-end financial transfers and reserves agreed, ensuring funding is in place for future infrastructure and community improvements.

Diss Matters Autumn/Winter 26'

We're looking for local events and community news stories to feature in our Autumn/Winter Diss Matters magazine, scheduled for delivery to all Diss households in October.

If you have something you'd like to feature, please get in touch for more information!

Articles must be received by **9th September 2026**.



Looking Ahead

Over the coming months, we will be focusing on:

- Improving public spaces and biodiversity
- Delivering key infrastructure projects
- Supporting community events and local businesses
- Ensuring long-term investment through careful financial planning

Meet your newest Town Councillor, Paul Wilson

Diss Town Council has recently co-opted its 10th councillor, Paul Wilson. A resident of Diss for more than 13 years, Paul is keen to play an active role in supporting and improving the local community.

Paul brings experience across retail, print production, and digital services, with roles ranging from sales assistant to supervisor, as well as work in graphic design and webstore administration. He also holds an AAT Level 2 qualification in Accounting.



Having supported local events as a volunteer, Paul has developed strong teamwork and community engagement skills. As a councillor, he is committed to listening to residents, being approachable, and working with others to make positive improvements for Diss.

Interested in making a difference in your community? Become a Diss Town Councillor - Find out more: www.diss.gov.uk/the-role-of-a-councillor

Underway/ Upcoming Projects...

Assets & Community Spaces

- Considering quotes received for RIBA stages 0-2 to refine, develop and establish the DYCC project brief, test the feasibility, and develop concept design options demonstrating how the facility could be delivered (key strategic objective 1)
- Wildlife planting and green corridor initiatives
- Working with the Lead Local Flood Authority to improve the Mere drainage and with other stakeholders to enhance the water quality (key strategic objective 2)
- Partnering with SNDC to improve the link between the new leisure & community centre and Park including an enhanced covered community space (key objective 3)

Environment & Biodiversity

- Refresh the planter scheme across the town centre alongside a new volunteer group
- New tree planting scheme to be installed at Rectory Meadow in the Autumn
- Working with Norfolk Wildlife Trust to enhance biodiversity across all sites

Infrastructure & Town Development

- Liaising with SNDC regarding funding for a new Electric Utility Vehicle to help support street cleaning in the town centre
- Streetlighting scheme approved for new Shelfanger Road housing development
- Partnering with SNDC & Citizens Advice to reuse the porta cabin on the Shelfanger Road car park for community benefit (objective 4 whilst we work on objective 1)

Events

- Supporting the Dinsdale duck trail supporting local businesses and increasing footfall in the town centre
- Leading on Remembrance Parade and Market Place Ceremony on 9th November
- Planning the Christmas Lights Switch-On on 5th December

