

District Report from Cllr. Keith Flunder May 2026

For the Endon Parish Council meeting May 12th 2026

If there are any concerns or questions that parish councillors wish to ask me then please call phone me.

1. LGR Update and summary: -

- a) We are all now waiting to hear about which option for the Unitary Authorities will be chosen by the Government. Probably around the end of June / early July. This will be only part of the announcement for the remaining 12-13 County areas. Please note there are some cases when the Government may ask for further consultation on the options.
- b) The second set of Locality meetings were completed on April 28th. These meetings included an agreed up-dated presentation. As well as summarising the LGR process for the coming years.
- c) The next stage are meetings that will be arranged by and for Mutual Ventures, which are being planned and will quickly happen over the coming weeks and months. The meetings planned for the Northwest group are for local businesses on June 3rd at 4pm and for Parish/Town councils on May 20th at 6pm. I also believe there is a meeting on May 13th in Biddulph? There will be a future meeting for the community / neighbourhood as well.
- d) While Town and Parish plans will also be supported with spread sheets to help Parish and Town councils to log both their physical assets and community groups and activities. These will include public areas and street furniture etc. It is hoped that this process will help them look at their own assets and support their own local strategic plans.
- e) Future meetings and possible visits to parishes are also available. Although it might be best to get a report on the agenda from the planned locality meetings.
- f) I'm still hopeful that there will be some assistance from SMDC as to the best way to transfer any community assets in the remaining time period.

2. The Parish Assembly and the SPCA will support Parish and Town councils over the coming years to produce their own plans. This was agreed at the recent SPCA executive meetings in Stafford.
3. Brown Bin charges will start from June 29th 2026, for residents in the SMDC district. The food bin service / process will also start in June. Information / leaflets have been sent out to all residents.
4. Other local projects I'm currently looking into, include play grounds / cycle/skate parks and parking areas to support local activities and community projects.

5. Training opportunities are still on-going over the next 4 to 5 months, for both district and parish/town councillors. I and others have attended planning training to keep the district out of additional measures. I will send through other opportunities as and when they are agreed.
6. Planning committee meeting was held on April 23rd and the next planning meeting will be on May 12st. There was a training session regarding appeals training.
7. Other case work being looked into include planning issues and enforcement, access to a farm track, a possible boxing club for young people, the building rubble at Spinney Close (an email from Ben Hayward for the Parish Council, has been promised.
8. The CIF fund, which is now fully spent and closed for 2025/26, will be reopened for 2026/27 in a few months' time.
9. There are several meetings including, a street furniture working group meeting, The AGM meeting for the District. Other recent meetings include the joint nature working group, Biodiversity and BNG presentation.
10. There are a couple of surgeries planned in May and June, dates to be promoted.
11. Questions ? Please call me on 07836 526834 or send me an email at keith.flunder@staffsmoorlands.gov.uk