

Borough Council of
**King's Lynn &
West Norfolk**



COUNCIL MEETING

Agenda

Thursday, 27th June, 2024
at 5.00 pm

In the Assembly Room
Town Hall
Saturday Market Place
King's Lynn

Available for the public to view on [WestNorfolkBC on You Tube](#)



King's Court, Chapel Street, King's Lynn, Norfolk, PE30 1EX
Telephone: 01553 616200
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19 June 2024

Dear Councillor

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the **Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk** which will commence at **5.00 pm** on **Thursday, 27th June, 2024** in the Assembly Room, Town Hall, Saturday Market Place, King's Lynn to transact the business shown below.

Yours sincerely

Lorraine Gore
Chief Executive

BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED

1. PRAYERS

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3. MINUTES

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the Meetings of the Council held on 21 March, 25 April, 13 May and 16 May and 17 June 2024 (previously circulated).

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Page 6)

Please indicate if there are any interests which should be declared. A declaration of an interest should indicate the nature of the interest (if not already declared on the Register of Interests) and the agenda item to which it relates. If a disclosable pecuniary interest is declared, the member should withdraw from the room whilst the matter is discussed.

5. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

To receive Mayor's communications and announcements.

6. URGENT BUSINESS

To receive any items of business which in the opinion of the Mayor are urgent.

7. PETITIONS AND PUBLIC QUESTIONS

To receive petitions and public questions in accordance with Standing Order 9.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COUNCIL BODIES

(Members are reminded this is a debate, not a question and answer session)

To consider the following recommendations to Council:

1) **Cabinet: 11 June 2024** (Page 7)

CAB17 : Data Protection Policy

9. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES (Pages 8 - 12)

10. CABINET MEMBERS REPORTS (Pages 13 - 51)

In accordance with Standing Order 11, to receive reports from Cabinet Members moved en bloc, under Standing Order 11.2 Members of the Council may ask questions of Cabinet Members on their reports and Portfolio areas. The order of putting questions shall commence with a Member from the largest opposition group, proceeding in descending order to the smallest opposition group, followed by a Member from the ruling group. This order shall repeat until the time for questions has elapsed or there are no more questions to be put.

The period of time for putting questions and receiving responses shall not exceed 50 minutes for all Cabinet Members, excluding the Leader

The period of time for putting questions and receiving responses to the Leader shall not exceed 15 minutes.

(Councillors are reminded that this is a question and answer session not a debate.)

Climate Change and Biodiversity – Councillor M de Whalley

Planning and Licensing – Councillor J Moriarty

Environment and Coastal - Councillor S Squire

Finance – Councillor C Morley

Events and Open Spaces– Councillor B Anotá

People and Communities – Councillor J Rust

Deputy Leader Business and Culture – Cllr S Ring

Leader - Councillor A Beales

11. MEMBERS QUESTION TIME

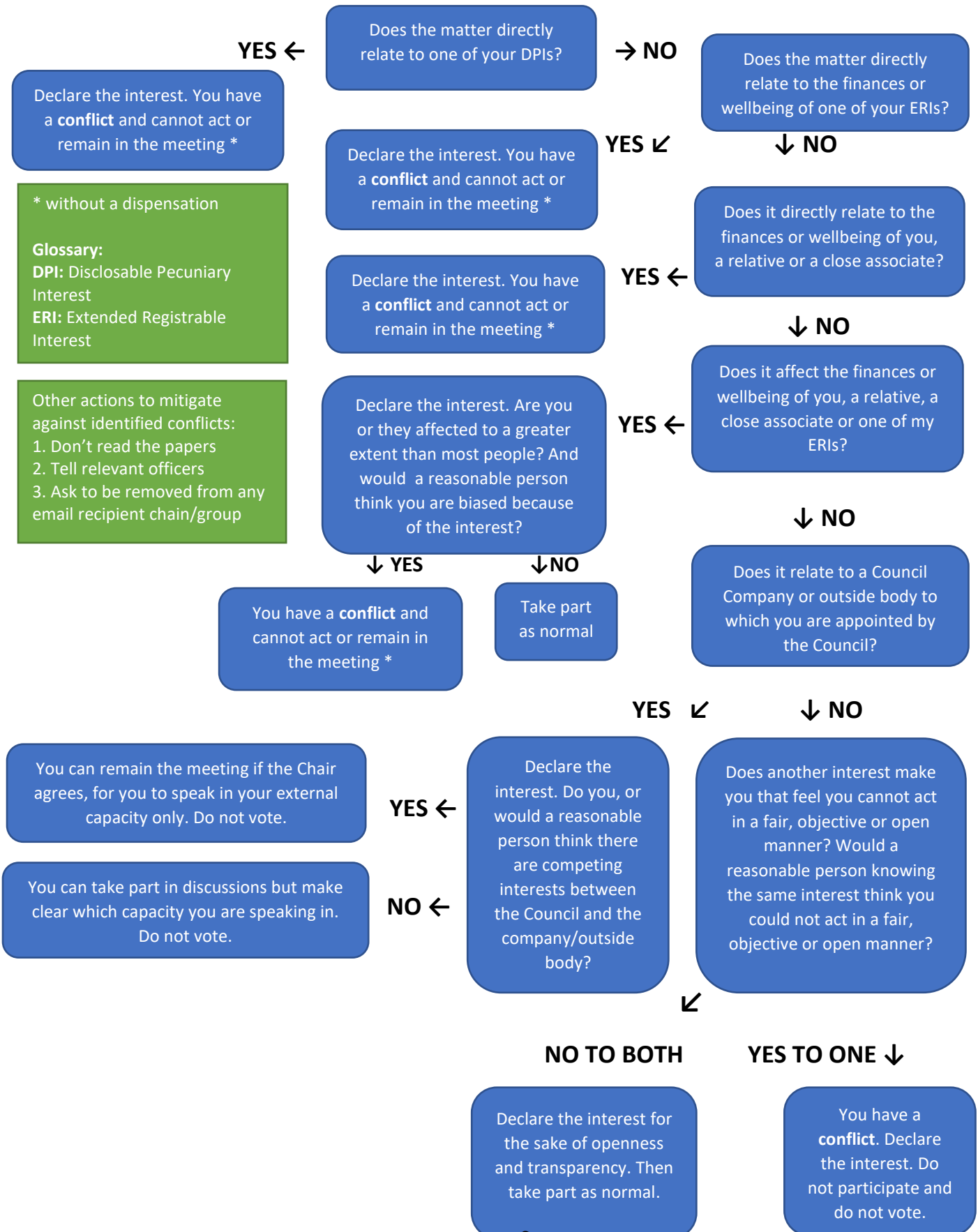
In accordance with Standing Order 11.2 (b), Members of the Council may ask any questions of the Chair of any Council Body (except the Cabinet).

Lorraine Gore
Chief Executive

DECLARING AN INTEREST AND MANAGING ANY CONFLICTS FLOWCHART



START



RECOMMENDATIONS FROM CABINET ON 11 JUNE 2024 TO COUNCIL ON 27 JUNE 2024

CAB16: DATA PROTECTION POLICY

The Corporate Governance Manager presented a report which explained that the existing BCKLWN Data Protection policy was overdue for review. An internal Audit review conducted in August 2023 identified that the existing policy had not been reviewed since 2018.

A light touch review had been conducted by the Deputy SIRO in 2022 but the revised policy did not go through the formal Tier 1 policy approval process.

The Information Governance Officer had since reviewed and enhanced the policy. Most of the changes were non-material and were listed in the report at 2.2. The Policy had been benchmarked against other best practice policies and Information Commissioner's guidance.

If approved by Cabinet, the policy will be placed on the intranet and an all-staff email will inform officers and members of the updates and how to access the policy.

Under standing order 34, Councillor Kemp questioned what the Council's data security procedures were on IT data protection. The Governance Manager explained that the majority of it came under the Council's ICT and cyber security policies, but much of the Council's information was held in the Microsoft cloud with their associated security which was deemed acceptable. She also explained that there were no significant breaches, and only 1 reportable occurrence to the Information Commissioner.

In response to questions, the Corporate Governance Manager explained that the Information Asset Register was a record of the information held by each department by owner, controller, and processor categories.

It was noted that the Corporate Performance Panel had supported the amended policy.

RECOMMENDED: That the reviewed Data Protection policy as set out at Appendix 2 of the Cabinet report be endorsed.

Reason for Decision

To ensure that the Council's Data Protection policy is up-to-date and formally approved.

REPORT TO COUNCIL

Lead Member: Councillor Beales, Leader of the Council		Other Cabinet Members consulted:		
		Other Members consulted: E&C and CPP Panel		
Lead Officer: Samantha Winter E-mail: sam.winter@west-norfolk.gov.uk Direct Dial:01553 616327		Other Officers consulted:		
Financial Implications NO	Policy/Personnel Implications NO	Statutory Implications (incl S.17) NO	Equalities Impact Assessment NO	Risk Management Implications NO

Date of Meeting: 27th June 2024

APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES AND INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARDS

Purpose of Report

The report seeks the appointment of representatives to serve on outside bodies and partnerships, which fall within the General, Parished and Unparished categories. Nominations for representatives to serve on outside bodies and partnerships which fall within the Scrutiny and Regulatory categories have been made by the Environment and Community Panel and Corporate Performance Panel are also submitted for approval by Council as set out in point 5.1 of the report.

Recommendations

- 1) That the Council appoints representatives to serve on the outside bodies and partnerships listed in the Parish level and General categories as shown at Appendix 1.
- 2) That Council approves the appointment of representatives nominated by the Panels to serve on outside bodies and partnerships which fall within the Scrutiny and Regulatory categories as shown in point 5.1 of the report and also included in Appendix 1 and Council nominates members to serve on the scrutiny outside bodies if no nominations were made by the Panels.
- 3) That the reporting arrangements as shown in section 3 of the report and the proposed review as shown in Section 4 of the report are noted.

Reason for decision

To ensure continued involvement in the community by the Council

1.0 BACKGROUND

1.1 The Cabinet at its meeting on 11th June 2024 confirmed a number of Executive appointments to outside bodies and partnerships. Further appointments are made by the Council in the following categories:

- Scrutiny and regulatory roles
- Parish level representation, parished and unparished areas
- General appointments

2.0 INSURANCE COVER FOR BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

2.1 The Council's insurance will indemnify any employee or member arising from their service on the board or participation in the capacity of governor, officer, trustee, director, committee member or other official of any not-for profit entity other than the insured.

Provided always that:

- a) The service or participation by the employee or member is specifically requested by or under the specific direction of the insured.
- b) The insured is legally entitled to approve the service or participation and to indemnify the employee of member in respect of it.
- c) Any payment will only be made by the insurer for an amount in excess of any indemnification or insurance coverage provided by the not-for-profit entity or afforded from any other source and to which the employee or member is entitled.

2.2 When a member is appointed to serve on an outside body, they should also ensure that as well as completing the Register of Financial and Other Interest form, they should complete the annual "Related Party Transactions form", with the details of those bodies on which they serve.

3.0 FEEDBACK FROM MEMBERS ON OUTSIDE BODIES

3.1 Arrangements for reporting back by Members serving on Outside Bodies are approved every year at Council as follows:

3.2 The Panels should be able to request reports from Councillors serving on outside bodies which fall within their remit. This will make it possible for members both to assess the usefulness of making appointments to bodies and be informed of any relevant matters.

3.3 Cabinet Members serving on outside bodies will report via their Cabinet Members' reports to Council.

3.4 All Members are encouraged to use the Members' Bulletin to report on the work of any such organisation they are appointed to.

4.0 REVIEW OF OUTSIDE BODIES

4.1 A review of all Outside Bodies, including Cabinet and General Appointments, will be conducted over the summer to ensure that representation on Outside Bodies links in with the Corporate Priorities of the Council and that Councillors are aware of their role on the bodies and the Council's position. Reporting

arrangements will also be reviewed to ensure that Councillors are feeding back key issues to the Council and Senior Officers as required.

5.0 APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES

5.1 Scrutiny and Regulatory Roles

Nominations made by the Panels are listed below:

- Borough Council/College of West Anglia Liaison Board - **Councillor Osborne**
- King's Lynn and West Norfolk Area Museums Committee - **Councillors Bland, Bubb and non-Councillor Bill Davison.**
- Norfolk County Council – Norfolk Countywide Community Safety Partnership Scrutiny Sub-Panel – the Environment and Community Panel nominated Councillors Kemp and Rose to these positions, however subsequent communication from Norfolk County Council has stated that the Members on this Panel need to be the same members that are appointed to the Police and Crime Panel. At Cabinet on 11th June Cabinet appointed Councillors Ware and Heneghan to these positions.
- Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee – **Councillors Devulapalli and Substitute was left vacant.**
- West Norfolk Community Transport Project – **Councillor Everett**
- King's Lynn Football Club – **Councillor Bland**
- Hunstanton Sailing Club – The Corporate Performance Panel felt that a Council representative was no longer required on this Outside Body and did not nominate.

5.2 General Appointments, Parish Level Representation, Parished and Unparished Areas

Appendix 1 lists the bodies for which representatives are to be appointed by Council. It also lists the current representatives for information.

5.3 Members who would like to put themselves forward for the bodies listed in Appendix 1 should inform their Group Leader in advance of the Full Council meeting. Group Leaders are requested to notify Democratic Services of any nominations. This will assist with meeting preparations.

6.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Mileage and subsistence allowances for Councillors attending meetings.

7.0 ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Current lists of member representation
ACSeS report on liabilities of Outside Bodies

APPENDIX 1

APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES TO BE MADE BY FULL COUNCIL ON 27 JUNE 2024

Scrutiny nominations made by the Panels (to be confirmed by Council) are also shown below.

Part Cabinet/part Council appointments

Name of Organisation	Number of Representatives	23-24 Appointments
Borough Council/College of West Anglia Liaison Board	1 x Cabinet 1 x nominated by E&C (Councillor Osbourne nominated by E&C)	Parish (Cabinet) Osborne (Council to appoint following E&C nominations)
Downham Market Leisure Centre Joint Management Committee	1 x Cabinet 2 x Council	Bullen (Cabinet) Osborne and Devulapalli
King's Lynn and West Norfolk Area Museums Committee	1 x Cabinet 3 x E&C 1 x Council	De Whalley (Cabinet) Bland, Bubb and Bill Davison (Council to appoint following E&C nominations) Kemp (Council)

Council Appointments

Name of Organisation	Number of Representatives	23-24 Appointments
Backhams Almshouses Trust	1	Christine Hudson (non-Council)
Bexwell Poors Land Charity	1	Tony White NCC
Brancaster Commons Committee	1	De Winton
Burnham Overy Harbour Management Committee	1	Sandell
Gaywood Allotment Trust	4	Collop, Rust, Wilkinson and Christine Hudson (non-Council)
Hunstanton and District Festival of Arts	1	Bubb
Hunstanton Sailing Club Development Sub Committee Observer	1 x CPP	Corporate Performance Panel recommend that a representative is no longer required on this Outside Body
John Sugars Almshouses Charity	3	Bone, Heneghan and Christine Hudson (non-Council)

King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Charity	2	Bubb and Rust
King's Lynn Community Football	1	Rust
King's Lynn Conservancy Board	4	Ayres, Kunes, Ring and de Whalley
King's Lynn Emmerich Twinning Club	2	Rust and non Councillor Andy Tyler
King's Lynn Town Football Club	1 E&C	Bland
Marriotts Warehouse Limited	3	Bearshaw, Blunt and Ring
Norfolk Countywide Community safety Partnership Scrutiny Sub Panel	1 + Sub – E&C	E&C Nominated Councillors Kemp and Rose, however NCC have stated that members should be the same as those appointed to the Police and Crime Panel. Members of the Police and Crime Panel are Councillors Ware and Heneghan.
Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee	1 + sub – E&C	Devulapalli and vacancy (substitute)
North End Trust	1	Jones
Outwell Charities	1	Crofts
Queen Elizabeth Hospital Governors Council	1	Kemp
SNAP Downham Market	2	Chair Rose Vice Chair Osborne
SNAP Hunstanton	2	Chair Beal Vice Chair Dickinson
SNAP King's Lynn	2	Chair Ware Vice Chair Bone
Sibelco – Leziate Quarry	2	Devulapalli and de Whalley
West Norfolk and King's Lynn Girls School Trust	1	Sandell
West Norfolk Community Transport Project	1 x E&C	Everett
West Norfolk Youth Advisory Group	1	Rust
William Cleave Educational Foundation	2	Devulapalli and Parish

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

27 June 2024

COUNCILLOR MICHAEL de WHALLEY - CABINET MEMBER FOR CLIMATE CHANGE AND BIODIVERSITY

For the period 12 March 2024 to 18 June 2024

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Carbon Literacy Training

Preparation of briefing and e-learning materials bespoke to the council are ongoing. Both myself as Portfolio Holder and The Climate Change Manager have completed a 2-day Local Government Association funded and accredited “Carbon Literacy” course. Further senior carbon literacy training is taking place for key officers.

Active Travel

Upgrades to key areas of the cycle and walking network are due to take place during July and August. We have delivered ‘Dr Bike’ sessions for employees, supported by Sustrans and have also held an active travel breakfast session to support those who had actively travelled to work that day and to promote active travel to any member of staff interested in learning more. Research into cycle to work schemes has progressed including discussions with other Council’s regarding the schemes they operate to learn from their experience.

Norfolk Net Zero Communities

A successful launch was held at the Enterprise Centre, UEA on Tuesday 21 May. Hubhub, the consultants supporting the project, are contacting community representatives to commence the listening phase of their work and are in the process of recruiting a local engagement coordinator.

Solar Together

A new campaign is on track for commencement in August.

Schools Climate Competition Project

We are in conversations with 8 Billion Ideas about confirming a project brief for a renewed project starting in the new school year.

Norfolk Climate Change Partnership (NCCP)

The NCCP Partnership Manager’s post has been extended until 2025. One of the projects is a thermal imaging campaign in conjunction with North Norfolk, starting in November 2024. Three areas have been identified as priorities for this pilot project. This will involve the leasing of thermal imaging cameras to residents to identify areas of domestic energy loss. Support will be given by our team and NCCP.

Air Source Heat Pumps (ASHP) in new builds

Air Quality News has reported that the Borough is leading all authorities, by a clear margin, on the installation of ASHP in new buildings as per table below. We are looking to further our progress with our major housing programme.

Local authorities in England and Wales with the largest per cent of new builds with air source heat pumps between 2019 and 2023

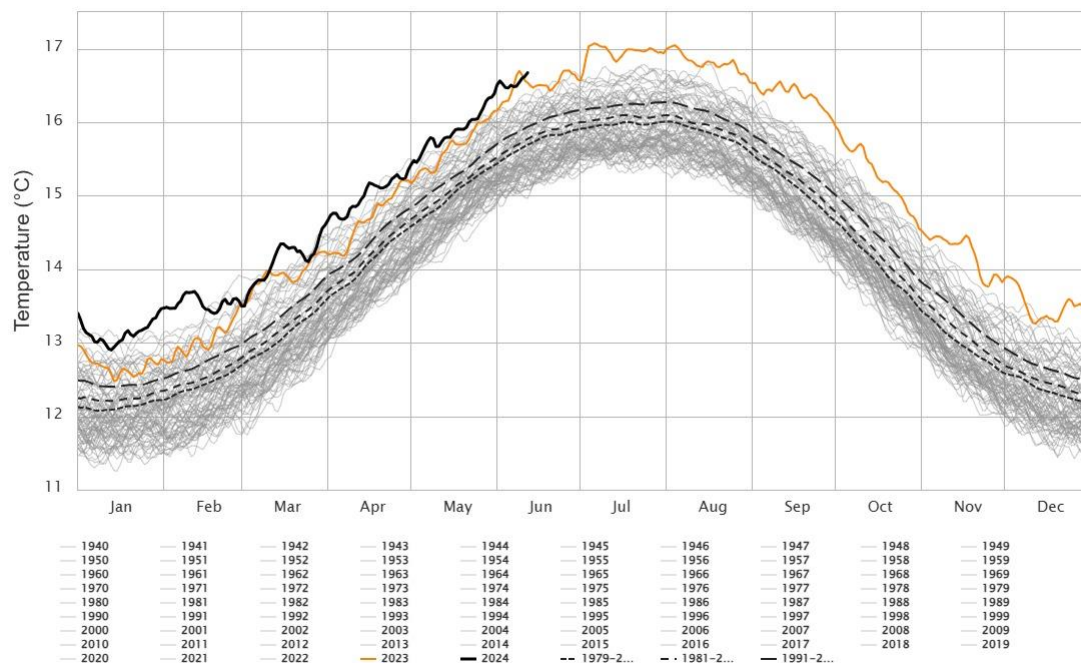
Local authority	New builds with ASHP	% of new builds with ASHP
King's Lynn & West Norfolk	1293	52.12%
Ceredigion	307	39.26%
Breckland	1213	38.58%
Tandridge	440	36.24%
Mid Suffolk	1047	28.20%
Isle of Anglesey	289	26.93%
Babergh	586	26.15%
East Cambridgeshire	638	25.57%
Powys	436	24.99%
Cornwall	3359	24.42%

Climate

May 2024 was the warmest May on record globally, the twelfth such consecutive month, with an average surface air temperature of 15.91°C, 0.19°C above the temperature of the previous warmest May, in 2020. May was about 1.52°C warmer than an estimate of the May average for 1850-1900, the designated pre-industrial reference period. This marks the 11th consecutive month (since July 2023) at or above 1.5°C.

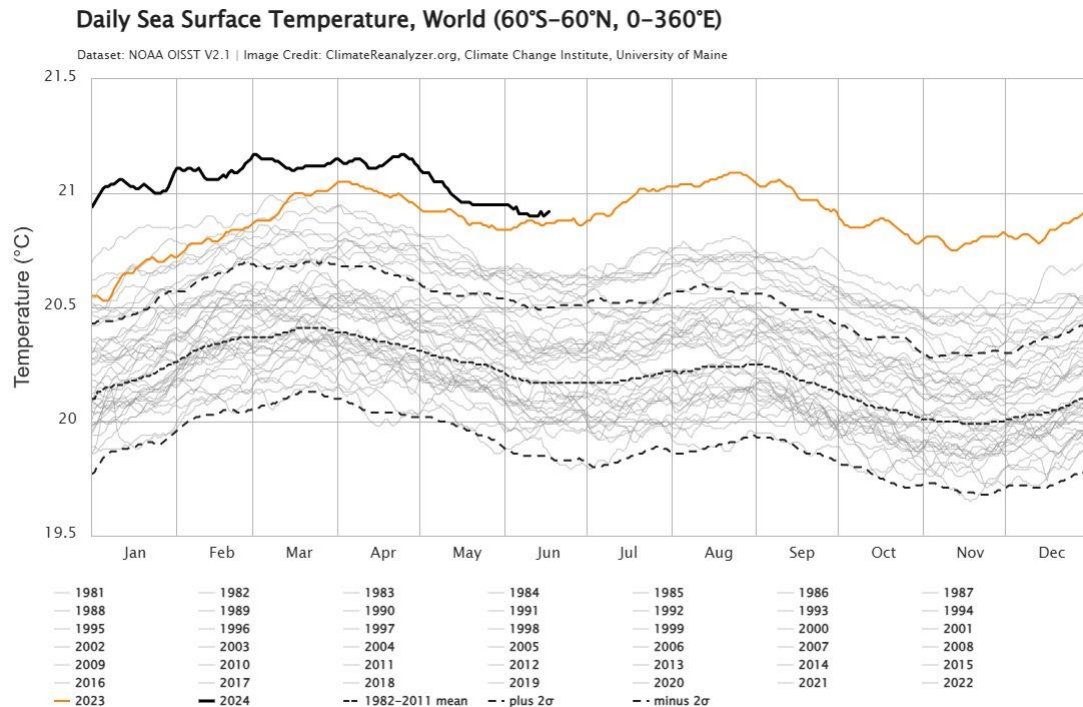
Daily Surface Air Temperature, World (90°S-90°N, 0-360°E)

Dataset: ECMWF Reanalysis v5 (ERA5) downloaded from C3S | Image Credit: ClimateReanalyzer.org, Climate Change Institute, University of Maine



The average global sea surface temperature (SST) for May 2024 over 60°S–60°N was 20.93°C, the highest value on record for the month. This is the fourteenth month in a row that the SST has been the warmest for the respective month of the year. Sea surface temperature is defined over the global extrapolar ocean, from 60°S to 60°N. This is used as a standard diagnostic for climate monitoring.

Data source: European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts - ERA5.



Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP)

Consideration of the February consultation responses is being finalised. We will move forward through the Committee cycle during late summer and early autumn to adopt the revised AQAP. Once adopted we will then move forward to implement the measures.

2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

Beat Your Bills Roadshow

Outwell (Primary School) – 26/06/2024 14:30-16:00

Docking (Marketplace) – 10/07/2024 09:00-13:00

Hunstanton (Helping Hands Café) – 15/07/2024 09:30-12:00

Downham Market (Marketplace) – 26/07/2024 09:00-14:00

Southery (Village Hall) - 06/08/2024 10:00-14:00

King’s Lynn (Boots) – 02/08/2024 10:00-14:00

As an example of the savings that can be made engaging with the roadshows, a full house retrofit of a dwelling on Wilson Drive, East Winch, which was

producing 8 tonnes of CO2 per annum, now only produces 0.2 tonnes of CO2 per annum.

As a result of our endeavours facilitating declarations of eligibility for grants across West Norfolk, at least 302.9 tonnes of CO2 per annum have been saved.

3 Meetings Attended and Meetings Scheduled

Mayor's Electric Vehicle Launch
Climate Literacy Training
Biodiversity Task Group
King's Lynn and West Norfolk Area Museums Committee
King's Lynn Conservancy Board
Mr James Wild MP
West Lynn Footpath
Active and Clean Connectivity Project Board
CIL Spending Panel
Regeneration and Development Panel
Environment and Community Panel
Norfolk Climate Change Portfolio Holders
West Norfolk Transport & Infrastructure Steering Group
Active & Sustainable Travel Event
Local Plan Task Group
King's Lynn IDB meeting
Net Zero Communities Launch
Standards Committee – Freedom of the Borough
Congham Bridge Public Inquiry
Planning Committee
Environmental Groups
Harding's Pits Doorstep Green - Whale Unveiling
Cabinet Briefings
Capital Investment Briefing
Cabinet

Portfolio Holder Briefings and updates:

Climate Change Weekly Updates
Air Quality Action Plan

Meetings Scheduled:

Climate Conference - 18 July 2024

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

27 June 2024

COUNCILLOR JIM MORIARTY- CABINET MEMBER FOR PLANNING & LICENSING

For the period 22nd March to 13th June 2024

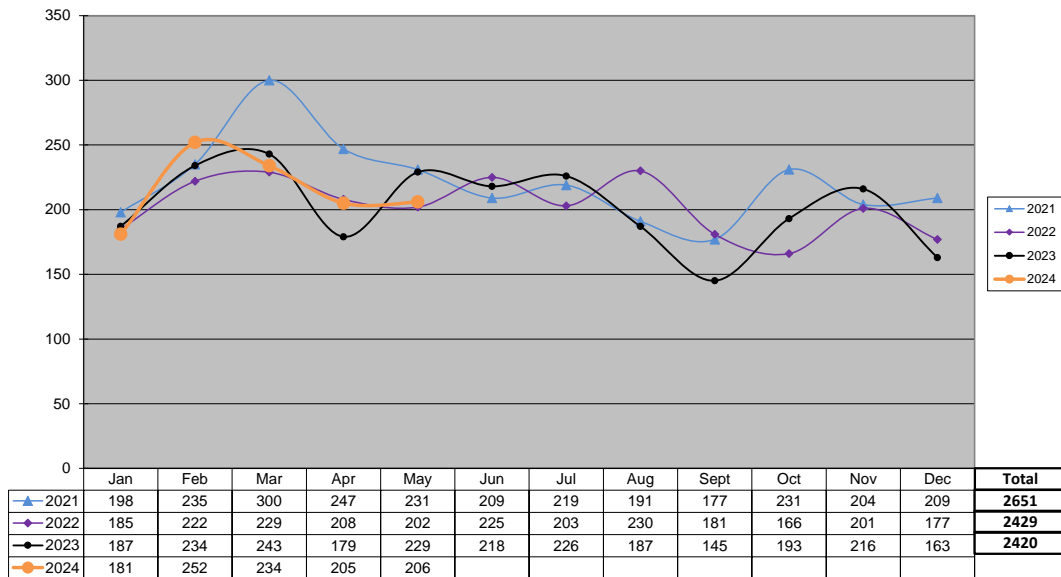
1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Firstly, my thanks to officers for their work during the period in question, and in compiling this report.

Planning and Discharge of Conditions applications received

Application numbers at the end of May 2024 are almost identical to the same period last year.

Planning and discharge of condition applications received



Major and Minor dwelling applications and householder applications received comparison

	1/6/21 – 31/5/22	1/6/22 – 31/5/23	1/6/23 – 31/5/24
No. of Major dwelling applications rec'd	20	17	11
No. of Minor dwelling applications rec'd	299	336	212
No. of Householder applications rec'd	822	711	599
Total	1141	1064	822

*Minor dwelling applications = up to 10 units

Major dwelling applications = over 10 units

2023/24 performance for determining planning applications 1/6/23 – 31/5/24

	National target	Performance
Major	60%	93%
Non – Major	70%	90%

Appeal Performance – decisions made by The Planning Inspectorate 1/6/23 – 31/5/24

	Dismissed	Allowed
Planning appeals	36	23
	61%	39%
Enforcement appeals	10	0
	100%	0%

The higher the number of appeals allowed, the more The Planning Inspectorate (PINS) is going against the council's decisions, so a low figure of appeals allowed (upheld) is clearly preferable. For context the national average for planning appeals allowed annually has historically been around 34% post National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

QUALITY OF DECISIONS

This measure calculates the percentage of the total number of decisions made by the Authority on applications that are then overturned at Appeal.

The Assessment period for this measure is the two years up to and including the most recent quarter plus nine months. Therefore, the performance for Q1 (end of March) is calculated as follows:

Planning applications determined between 01/07/2021 to 30/06/2023 plus 9 months = 31/03/2024.

The threshold for designation for both Major and Non-Major is 10% - this is the figure that should not be exceeded, otherwise there is a risk of the Authority being designated by Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC).

MAJOR		
No. of Decisions Issued	No. Allowed on Appeal	% Overturned
84	5	5.95%

NON-MAJOR		
No. of Decisions Issued	No. Allowed on Appeal	% Overturned
3096	19	0.16%

Revenue income 2024/25 (Planning and Discharge income)

Figures are based on a full year projected income budget of £1,100,000.

Projected	Actual	Variance with projected
April 24 – May 24	April 24 – May 24	
£183,333	£127,162	-£56,171

Development Management staff update

There continues to be an active change in resources, and we are currently out to advert for an Assistant Planner. Adverts are about to be released for a Planner / Senior Planner. While this process takes place, we will be procuring the services of agency staff.

The Local Government Association and Planning Advisory Service have sponsored a graduate planner scheme (Planning Cohort 2) and we will be interviewing 6 candidates on the 19th June.

Local Land and Property Gazetteer

A big congratulations to the team who are responsible for maintaining and managing the corporate Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG). Last year the team achieved a Gold Award but this year they have gone one better achieving the highest accolade, Platinum Award. GeoPlace are responsible for announcing and presenting the annual awards.

GeoPlace, a public sector limited liability partnership between the Local Government Association and Ordnance Survey. GeoPlace set local authorities very challenging performance standards to meet to ensure address data is extremely accurate, our performance is monitored on a monthly basis.

The LLPG contains the official address data for both residential (75,000) and commercial premises (8,500) across the borough. Change only data is uploaded daily to the National Land and Property Gazetteer, managed by GeoPlace. The address data is used across the Council, private businesses and by the emergency services to ensure they get to the correct location without delay.

You can check your address by using Find My Nearest https://www.west-norfolk.gov.uk/nearestplayareas#address_set

Local Plan Update

The Borough Council formally submitted its Local Plan in March 2022 for Examination. In doing so we made a formal request to the Secretary of State for the Department for Levelling

Up, Housing & Communities that the appointed Inspectors recommend any modifications required to make the Local Plan legally compliant and sound.

The Local Plan Examination process involved a first round of hearings which took place in December 2022 and January 2023. These were then adjourned, with reconvened hearings taking place in March and April 2024. As part of this an accelerated timescale through to adoption was agreed and has been published. This will result in the Local Plan being adopted before the conclusion of this financial year (March 2025). The process going forward includes consulting on Main Modifications required to ensure that the Local Plan is legally compliant and sound.

These Main Modifications will be subject to a six-week public consultation. This is scheduled to start the week commencing 24/06/2024. Representations received will inform the Inspectors Local Plan Report. It is anticipated that this will recommend that the Local Plan can be adopted subject to the inclusion of a series of Main Modifications. Following this a report will be prepared and taken to Cabinet and Full Council recommending that the Local Plan be formally adopted (February / March 2025).

Representations received as part of the Gypsy and Travellers and Travelling Show People proposed site allocations and policies consultation (10 May - 21 June 2024) will be passed on to the Inspectors for their consideration. This will then be the subject of the hearing sessions schedule for early September. Following this there will be a further Main Modifications consultation on this matter.

The accelerated timetable for the Local Plan, which includes key milestones, is available to view as part of our Local Development Scheme (LDS) (page 9 &10) via the following link: [Local Development Scheme | Local Development Scheme | Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk \(west-norfolk.gov.uk\)](#).

Neighbourhood Planning Update

As of June 2024, there are 19 “made” (adopted) Plans in place. Details of recently made (since 2023) and emerging Neighbourhood Plans are set out below:

Recently “made” Neighbourhood Plans (during 2023-24 financial year)

	Current position
Old Hunstanton Neighbourhood Plan 2021-2036	Passed at referendum, 8 February 2024; “made” 15 February 2024
Burnham Market Neighborhood Plan 2022-2036	Passed at referendum, 21 September 2023; “made” 26 September 2023
Gayton and Gayton Thorpe Neighbourhood Plan 2019-2036	Passed at referendum, 9 November 2023; “made” 20 November 2023
Stoke Ferry Neighbourhood Plan 2022-2036	Passed at referendum, 24 August 2023; “made” 29 August 2023
Wattlington Neighbourhood Plan 2019-2036	Passed at referendum, 7 December 2023; “made” 13 December 2023

Emerging Neighbourhood Plans

	Current position
Grimston, Pott Row, Roydon and Congham Neighbourhood Plan 2017-2036	Examination concluded 20 May 2024. Decision expected June 2024 with referendum anticipated to take place late July/ August 2024.
Marshland St James	Preliminary draft Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment/ Habitat Regulations Assessment consultation with Environment Agency/ Historic England/ Natural England (June/ July 2024) 1 st draft Plan (Regulation 14) consultation anticipated late-summer/ autumn 2024
North Wootton Neighbourhood Plan 2022-2036	Submitted, 12 September 2023; followed by pre-examination (Regulation 16) consultation (finished 24 November 2023). Examination commenced April 2024; anticipated to conclude summer 2024. Referendum anticipated autumn 2024
Pentney Neighbourhood Plan	1 st draft Plan (Regulation 14) consultation March-May 2023; Plan submission anticipated late-2024
Ringstead Neighbourhood Plan 2021-2036	Submitted 22 April 2024. Pre-examination (Regulation 16) consultation due to take place 14 June – 26 July 2024 (inclusive). Examination to take place late-summer/ autumn 2024.
Walpole	Preliminary draft Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment/ Habitat Regulations Assessment consultation with Environment Agency/ Historic England/ Natural England (June/ July 2024) 1 st draft Plan (Regulation 14) consultation anticipated late-summer/ autumn 2024
Walpole Cross Keys (review of 2017 Neighbourhood Plan)	Preliminary draft Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment/ Habitat Regulations Assessment consultation with Environment Agency/ Historic England/ Natural England (June/ July 2024) 1 st draft Plan (Regulation 14) consultation anticipated late-summer/ autumn 2024
In addition, several other Parishes are designated Neighbourhood Areas, but progress with plan-making is unknown or at an early stage	Burnham Overy (designated 5 December 2023); Dersingham; Downham Market; Docking (designated 22 December 2023); Great Massingham; Ingoldisthorpe; Outwell; Shouldham; Syderstone; Tilney St Lawrence; Walpole; West Dereham
Expressions of interest	King's Lynn Area Committee; Little Massingham Parish Council; Titchwell Parish Meeting

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

27 June 2024

COUNCILLOR SANDRA SQUIRE - CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT & COASTAL

For the period 16 May to 27th June 2024

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Things over the past couple of weeks have been quieter than usual as I have been ill and am only just getting back to some semblance of normally.

You may have already seen that following the efforts of our waste and recycling team during Food Waste Action Week, we collected 20 tonnes more food waste during April than usual. This is still down on pre-covid collection levels. However we have more initiatives planned for later this year concentrating on not just food waste but also dry recyclables, with the aim to increase the Borough's recycling rates to above 50%.

Our Environmental Health team have written to local salons that have sunbeds to remind them that it is illegal for Under 18's to use sunbeds. Young skin is particularly vulnerable to the effects of UV and with prom season approaching it is important to remind young people that there is evidence linking sunbed use to skin cancer.

Our staff also took part in the multi agency water safety day at Bawsey Country Park raising awareness of cold water shock and the dangers of swimming in the lakes at the park. With the weather anticipated to warm up over the next couple of weeks, it is important to remind everyone that the water may look inviting but there have been several deaths in the lakes and even very experienced swimmers can get into difficulty.

The FSA & Cefas have agreed to a 2nd monitoring point for shellfish at Heacham which is further out than the current location. So these will be known as inner and outer monitoring points. We will need 10 samples from this location to gain a classification, sampling is ongoing. Test results of shellfish on both sides of the wash have shown a marked increase in eColi levels over the last few years. The reasoning for this is unclear, although it is one of the areas of focus for the Coastal water quality conference to discuss.

Repair work to the coastal sea defences at Hunstanton will commence on 24th June. A total of 97 repairs are required including sealant replacement, concrete patch repairs and replacement of mortar joints. A health and safety inspection of the groynes also identified some works required to the groynes.

Access to the prom will be maintained throughout the duration of the works, although temporary barriers will be in use to ensure safety in the locations of the works. A works compound will also be set up on the North Prom. Works are due to be completed by 12th July in time for the summer holidays.

2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

We have agreed to provide £10,000 of funding towards a study of the Gaywood River catchment area. The project is led by the King's Lynn IDB with other partners contributing to the study, which aims to look at the modelling of the catchment to help improve flood risk management and to improve and restore the watercourse and its environment.

The Coastal Water Quality Conference which was scheduled to take place on 20th June, has now been postponed until 17th October. As ministers and senior civil servants would have been unable to attend during the election period.

The forthcoming report into Unit C, the shingle ridge at Heacham has also been postponed. The report was slightly delayed while it was being finalised and will now be published after the election. This also meant that the WECMS meeting has been postponed until after publication.

3 Meetings Attended and Meetings Scheduled

Various Portfolio Briefings
Special Cabinet meeting
Joint Waste Contract Review & Development Board meeting
NEWS Company Board meeting
North West Norfolk CaBa meeting
LGA Coastal SIG Water Quality Briefing
Special Council Meeting
Visit to the Depot
Wash & North Norfolk Coast Marine Partnership meeting
Ofwat meeting

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

27 June 2024

COUNCILLOR CHRIS MORLEY - CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE

For the period 16 May to 20th June

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

External Audits.

The work on our limited Finance resources is backing up whilst the team update the balances following completion of the 19/20 audit and work these through to the 22/23 financial statements and the opening balances of 23/24. This is causing a delay to publish the draft financial statements for 23/24 which is now estimated to be complete by 1 July 2024.

Our external auditors EY are nearing conclusion of their value for money assessment on the financial years 20/21, 21/22 and 22/23. Whilst this is good news, there is some setback whilst we await the corresponding Annual Governance Statements (AGS) to be agreed and published.

To address the backlog, we have supplemented the Legal and Governance Team with Internal Audit resource and are focussing the content to address the critical areas of governance.

As at the time of reporting, I do not have visibility of when the outstanding Statements will be presented for Audit Committee oversight.

BUDGET MONITORING 23/24

The above logjam is affecting our ability to complete the year end figures.

Revenue – Flash results indicate that we may not have to use all of the anticipated draw from General Reserves. It is, however, finely balanced with more requests being submitted for contingencies to add to next year's plans.

These requests, together with Y/E options will form part of a Cabinet Briefing in the very near future.

Capital – At last some better news. Council may recall that the forecast from the previous Administration looked much too high and therefore we started a mid term review of all projects, by Q3 we had reduced the 2023/24 forecast from £66m to £39m. The outturn this year looks, against some extremely bad weather, close to £36m. This indicates that the additional Member scrutiny, project and risk management that has been put in place is bearing fruit. We now have the small matter of delivering a forecast plan of £140m over the next 3 year term! We will need a fair wind and continuing governance but should welcome the challenge.

IDB LEVY CHALLENGE

Bringing the General Election date forward has pushed the funding debate

into the fog of uncertainty. The Special Interest Group (SIG) is forming an Action Plan to address the issue once the election results and Cabinet positions ratified.

As regards the £75m promised to IDBs at the last budget, I have heard no more than my recent note to all Members which advised £25m was being considered for routine activities and £50m for capital projects which could be completed this financial year. The Water Alliance was lobbying against this split and timescale, but IDB members may be better placed to enquire further. The information to help the Department allocate the £3m promised was submitted to the Government and an answer was promised last month. But, no awards of extra Grants have been made at this time.

EARLIER SURCHARGE ON EMPTY HOMES

We anticipated an extra 555 properties would be caught by this surcharge but in the event the number dropped to 318 where, for various reasons, their classification changed. The original forecast was an increase to the tax take of £782k but now reduced to £531k. This is a tax where we are not trying to negotiate a change to Preceptor rules and our return from our share of the council tax raised will now be around £30k.

2ND Home ADDITIONAL TAX

All Districts except South Norfolk are invoking the Act to secure a doubling of tax on 2nd homes from next year. However, in this case we are forming part of a District alliance to seek a return of a portion of the extra sum collected. The basic terms and method of (auditable) return from County have been agreed by the Districts and Great Yarmouth are finalising the submission to County for subsequent bilateral discussions.

The submission seeks a minimum of 50% return of the extra sum collected to be used by Districts for the affordable and rental housing sector, which is the sector most affected by the growth of second homes.

As a reminder to Members, there are 3200 second homes in our Borough and the extra tax will raise £6.5m. Half of this (or more) will prove most useful to support our 2 property companies.

PRODUCTIVITY

A term being increasingly used to imply that more can be done by Districts with their financial settlements, and we have to submit a report by July. This is being produced by Legal and Governance Team (Honor Howell) and supported by Finance.

We will obviously include the usual suspects from our ICT objectives of improving our digital offerings for communities and business continuity and our own emerging digital strategy. However, referring to the well known IDB issue, I would contend that the extreme levy placed on us has, by necessity, forced process improvements; in other words, we punch above our weight. For readers, I highlight below the impact of the IDB levies across Norfolk and the relative amounts of Council Tax demanded by it's Districts.

Broadland, South and Yarmouth are levied around £300k each, Norwich £66k and Breckland £85k; as a reminder the levy on us in 23/24 was £3.25m.

Resulting in the following Band D Council Tax (23/24) demands after the levy has been deducted.

KL& WN.	£82.59
BRECKLAND.	£106.78
BROADLAND.	£129.91
NORWICH.	£288.52
S. Norfolk.	£161.03
YARMOUTH.	£171.30

I think the above comparison indicates my point.

TRANSFORMATION

AI and digital opportunities are currently, and constantly, being mentioned as the means to transform the way we do business. However, we face a growing number of residents over the age of 65, younger residents declining and from the 2021 Census, around 23,000 residents amongst 20% of the most deprived in England.

We therefore have some serious headwinds, but we must deliver services even more effectively using all digital and similar means, which will also reduce both our carbon impact and our effect on the environment.

To start the ball rolling on digital and resource opportunities we asked the officers to analyse their work streams for all statutory, discretionary and support work services and allocate these to our Corporate Strategy.

The results were, by Corporate Priority, as follows:

PRIORITY.	No. WORKSTREAMS
Promote Growth and Prosperity.	203
Protect Environment.	118
Effective and Efficient Delivery of Services.	494
Support our communities.	323

We are now in the process of overlaying our current resources onto these work streams with the objectives of ensuring our resources fit with our corporate priorities, to pull together a digital strategy for achieving our goals more effectively and secure headroom for more and better community and business support.

A formal project plan has yet to be put together but progress on all of this will feature in future reports.

WINS LOTTERY

We are just past the 6th anniversary and for general information the total monies raised under this scheme are:

Good Causes	£130k
Prize Money	£68k
Community Fund	£54k (We currently hold £42k in our "pot").
Gatherwell	£45k

If your religion or ethics permit, it is of benefit to both the good cause you nominate and our community fund (which could be your good cause) for the purchase (through Direct Debit) of a few £1 tickets.

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2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.
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Various meetings on the following subjects: Finance Procurement ICT Railways Strategy IDB Special Interest Group Guildhall West Norfolk Property Company Shareholder Cabinet Audit CPP
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3 Meetings Attended and Meetings Scheduled
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Various Portfolio Meetings Regular Cabinet meetings Special Council meetings Meeting to discuss Alive and Joint Panel on subject. Guildhall Review Appointments Board for new CEO Analysis discussion Special Expenses Downham Market

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

27 June 2024

COUNCILLOR BAL ANOTA - CABINET MEMBER FOR PROPERTY AND CORPORATE SERVICES

For the period 16 May to 13th June 2024

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Parking Matters

As you will see from the graph below weather has taken its toll on stays and visitor numbers to our car parks, I thought we would see a little improvement over the half terms, but they were complete washouts with rain and wintery conditions.

This also shows how vulnerable our resort areas are and how much we rely heavily upon the weather, I am hopeful that the weather improves, and we see an increase in stays over this period and surpass last year's numbers.

			*to 12th Only				
		April	May	June*			
Burnham Market	2023	2631	2443	957	6031		
	2024	1894	2478	934	5306		
					-725	88%	
Heacham	2023	3404	3647	1686	8737		
	2024	2338	3253	833	6424		
					-2313	74%	
Hunstanton	2023	35143	34330	16358	85831		
	2024	25257	35179	10149	70585		
					-15246	82%	
Kings Lynn	2023	112900	115773	44914	273587		
	2024	111213	114750	42937	268900		
					-4687	98%	

The new P&D machines will definitely benefit the resort areas, with the addition of different payment options and better service and less reliance on telephone reception. These are due to be rolled out very soon starting with Hunstanton and then the rest of the Borough.

Grounds Maintenance/public open space

It's been a rough start for our ground maintenance team also - yet again the weather. But the team is working very hard through the backlog to get back on track, I visited some of our parks and cemeteries this month and can report they are well maintained to the point I was stopped by a resident to send this thanks to the teams for their hard work.

Memorial Safety Testing

172 cemetery memorials at high risk of falling over are to be made safe by specialists by the end of June

This follows testing of memorials in the council's operational cemeteries and the Diocese's closed churchyards last year.

We are obliged to check these memorials and, where necessary, to make them safe. Where we have identified that a memorial is at risk of falling, we have made every effort to contact grave owners and we have given people time to undertake remedial works, but unfortunately some people have moved and to be honest it's not the first thing on the "to do list" to contact the Borough with new contract details - but this leaves us in an uncertain position, but public safety is at the forefront.

We now plan to lay down the remaining 172 high-risk memorials, but I would like to assure people that it will be done in a careful and respectful manner.

The lower-risk memorials will be monitored by the council's qualified staff until the next round of formal testing, due to take place in 2028.

Letters to Heaven

A special post box has been installed at Mintlyn Crematorium to allow relatives to send letters to loved ones who are no longer with us.

Mintlyn Crematorium has installed the new white letters to heaven post box in their gardens inspired by the touching story of a grieving nine-year-old in Nottinghamshire who first conceived the idea.

This scheme allows family and friends to write letters to their loved ones who are no longer with us.

The letters to heaven post boxes are placed to help residents to remember our loved ones in a special way. They give an opportunity for people to post a birthday card, Christmas card, or the last card or letter that they may not have had the chance to send. We're honoured to have it installed at Mintlyn Crematorium Gardens.

Parking Strategy

both reports (KL & Hunstanton) are currently being reviewed by Officers with a view to having a revised draft for cabinet briefing, likely to be August time, after this the reports will be sent to R&D panel hopefully September or October,

As you know this is an important piece of work which will underpin several decisions / policies to be taken forward, so we are mindful that we want to ensure officers have opportunity to comment/feed and agree collectively a draft strategy for wider scrutiny by the panels and stakeholders. I will report on further progress on this matter as time goes on.

Events

As newly appointed Portfolio for Events It was absolutely fantastic to see the list of our events that we put on in West Norfolk, Please see website for full details -[Events | Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk \(west-norfolk.gov.uk\)](#) These Events not only helps communities come together but helps our core objectives and values as a local authority to give back to our community with some fantastic free events.

I will report further on this during the year,
 But I have to mention our great teams who are involved with the setting up of these events, we attend events but never get to see the intricate details in setting up any event, from road closures/barriers to setting up the stages, our Health-Safety and security, the team absolutely leave no stone unturned and, in most cases, it takes weeks to setup a single event. So, I would like to send my thanks to all the events team for their enthusiasm and dedication to make every event a success.

2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

Norfolk Parking Partnership

3 Meetings Attended and Meetings Scheduled

March 2024

- 4th - Planning Committee – TH
- 5th - Cabinet Meeting – TH
- 6th – Portfolio Meeting – MC/DM/GH
- 6th – Portfolio Meeting – HM
- 8th – Leziate PC –
- 12th – Marriotts Meeting – KC
- 12th Portfolio Meeting – MC
- 13th – Cabinet Briefing – KC
- 18th – Portfolio Meeting – MH
- 21st – Briefing G&T – Teams
- 21st – Full Council – TH
- 25th – Briefing Communities – Teams
- 27th – Portfolio Meeting – MH/OJ

April 2024

- 3rd – Downham Market Site Visit – MH
- 4th – DMFC – Teams
- 5th – Place Directorate Session – TH
- 8th – Planning Committee – TH
- 11th – Cabinet Meeting G&T – TH
- 12th – Directorate Catch Up – OJ
- 15th – Knights Hill Development – Teams
- 15th – Place Directorate Staff Session – TH
- 19th – Ward Matters -MD
- 22nd – Economic Strategy – Teams
- 23rd – Shareholders Committee – Teams
- 23rd – ACV Meeting – HH
- 23rd – Cabinet – TH
- 24th – Portfolio Meeting – OJ/MH
- 24th – Cabinet Briefing – KC
- 25th – Portfolio Meeting – MC/GH/DM
- 25th – Full Council – TH

May 2024

- 1st – Capital Investment – Teams

2nd – Portfolio Meeting – MH
7th – Planning Committee – TH
9th – Garden Remembrance – Mintlyn
9th – Gayton Road Cemetery –
9th – Special Cabinet – TH
10th – Leziate PC –
10th - KL Engagement Group – Teams
13th – Special Council Meeting – TH
15th – Portfolio Meeting – MH
16th – Annual Council – TH
20th – Cabinet Sifting – KC
21st – Hunstanton Meeting – Teams MH/AB
21st – Planning Training – Teams
22nd – Portfolio Meeting – MH/OJ
22nd – Standards Committee – TH
24th – Portfolio Meeting – MC/DM
June 2024
3rd – Planning Committee – TH
3rd - Special Cabinet – TH
5th – Cabinet Briefing – Teams
6th – PC Site Visit – TH
11th – Cabinet - TH
12th – DM Meeting – KC

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

28th April 2024

COUNCILLOR – JO RUST CABINET MEMBER FOR – PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES

For the period March 8th – June 27th 2024

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters. –

Housing register

1527 live applications

1 Emergency
198 High
504 Medium
824 Low

210 new or change in circumstances forms received - the forms were unable for a week to allow for essential maintenance by our IT provider

Housing Options

133 applicants given housing advice, 80 new homeless declarations and/or are ongoing investigations.

Lets advised - 38

The figures above really don't show the depth of the housing challenges that we face which absolutely reinforce the need for our council to take active steps to provide a remedy through our wholly owned housing companies. On the list of houses that were available for residents to bid for, 6 had over 100 bids each. The most bids for one property was 129. Under this administration the housing companies are starting, for the first time, to actually function in the way that they should. In time this will give us more control over the private rented sector as well as the supply of homes available through our registered housing providers.

I have attended regular meetings with Freebridge and heard how the review of the Decent Homes Standard 2 has still not been finalised. The government committed to review the Decent Homes Standard and in their 2022 Levelling Up White Paper, they committed to half the number of non-decent rented homes both in the private sector and social housing by 2030. Evidently, following the tragic death of two-year-old Awaab Ishak, caused by the damp and mold in his home, the law needed to be changed for social housing providers. Consultation closed on March 5th and the government is now

analyzing the responses. Freebridge feel that currently neither of the two main political parties have set out a clear strategy for housing or rent. I learnt how the board of Freebridge has committed the budget to turn voids around this year, which will be welcome news for us as Freebridge is our main provider of social housing. Since the meeting in March I have seen an improvement in the number of homes available to bid on and in May the lettings team had 60 properties to offer out.

On March 8th I attended a meeting with a local resident who has set up a Sisterhood Village, a not-for-profit social enterprise to provide support for the community by connecting like minded women to build meaningful relationships and get opportunities for personal growth. The project is in the early stages but sounds exciting. I provided Krystal, the founder, with funding information from the Health and Wellbeing Partnership. From that meeting this organization has successfully applied for funding and got their own office premises from which to operate. They are already making a big difference to the loneliness and isolation facing parents and helping to improve their prospects through training. So far the organization has seen 230 women attend an event in the 127 days that they have been operating.

On Saturday 9th March I went to Wisbech to attend their International Women's Day event, which was really well organized and attended. It was great to attend such an event which celebrates the achievements of women everywhere.

On 12th March I took part in a meeting to discuss our plans for accessible play areas. There is a strong desire and need to get it right the first time. It was agreed that there is so much they we can offer to make The Walks more accessible and to fully integrate accessible play. There will be more work to follow on from this and it is now looking like a phased and staged development will take place as we were successful in our application for funding new equipment. It's important that we don't lose this funding and so will be going out to tender for some equipment with a view to developing further into a fully integrated, accessible area. Since then there have been more discussions and meetings and the project has been handed over too the operational team who will deliver it.

Following on from that I attended a meeting to discuss the work undertaken by the money Advice Hub and Shelter. These are important external services which offer peripheral advice to stop our residents becoming homeless. While these are not core statutory services, they do support our core work by the preventative upstream work. These contracts have now gone out to tender with very specific criteria which the winning contractor will have to show how they can meet them. Our council works to ensure that we get the best value for money from the contracts that we award as would be expected when commissioning services as a prudent financial organization.

On March 13th I met with Superintendent Sonia Humphreys of Norfolk Police where to discussed some of the work being undertaken to reduce and tackle anti-social behaviour and serious organized crime. Working in the local communities which are more vulnerable to SOC there is a need to build and strengthen community cohesion. A launch of the Clear-Hold-Build initiative then took place on Thursday 18th April which was very well attended and created so many discussion points about how we can improve the outcomes of those living in some of our most disadvantaged areas. There was a room

wide commitment to engage with the project.

In March I visited the Citizen's Advice Bureau and heard of the amazing work that they are doing to help our local residents who are struggling with debt and other problems caused by the ongoing cost-of-living crisis. More and more people are presenting with higher rates of debt as they are finding that the income they earn is not able to cover the costs that they incur in just being alive. One of our borough councilors made reference to the increased number of children and families needing to use the local foodbank. It is indeed a disgrace that in 2024 as the sixth richest nation we have a growing need for such provision. Now one in seven people across the UK are facing hunger simply because they don't have enough money. Our social security system is the driving factor pushing people towards hunger. According to the Independent Food Aid Network (IFAN), there are at least 1,172 independent food banks operating in the UK—almost as many as in the Trussell Trust network which has more than 1,300. I had two portfolio briefings on Thursday afternoon. At the second one I learnt of the work that our officers are doing to support staff who will be dealing with the currently paused initiative called Right Care, Right Person. The police presented this initiative at an Integrated Care Board meeting some months ago. But after the tragic murder of a family in Norwich it was paused. What it will set out to do is to minimize police input into cases of mental health presentation and seek to direct people to the most appropriate care provider. This means the different teams that we have that provide advice, guidance and support to residents may face distressing calls where a resident declares that they're in a mental health crisis and may take action which would impact on their life or the lives of others. Now having voted in a new PCC commissioner, Labour's Sarah Taylor, local trade unions have written to her and asked that this initiative be paused.

On 16th March I was proud to open St Faith's Spring Fair. I always feel spring is really here once the fair has taken place, but writing this report in chilly June, I was wrong! Anyway, St Faith's Church and the other places of worship really contribute to the health and wellbeing of residents. They host lunches and events, fund youth support and offer parishioners funding to overcome financial difficulties. They make a real difference in our communities.

On Sunday 16th March I attended King's Lynn Minster's Celebration of Youth. It was wonderful to see so many people come together to enjoy the many talents and skills that our young people have. They showed real aspiration and this needs to be nurtured and grown and built upon and then harnessed so that they go on to lead rewarding and fulfilling lives and make a positive contribution towards our local communities. Ensuring that the talent of young people is nurtured and encouraged will go a long way to improving levels of aspiration and hopefully to retain young talent in are area.

Before full council on March 21st I was able to attend the council's formal farewell to Jill Bennett, our longest serving local radio journalists. I remember being first interviewed by Jill in 2010 and we had to go to the quay in order to get a signal. That's a definite improvement between now and then, that we can get a signal almost anywhere. I'm pleased to support the motion of award of the Freedom of the Borough for her services to journalism and our area I visited the REST hub in the High Street on April 3rd and heard of the work being undertaken by MIND to help our residents with their mental health.

They're looking to do some collaborative work with other local organisations such as CAB. MIND sees, on average, 380 people a month. Sometimes an individual needs only a couple of sessions for them to feel in a stronger place and so no ID is needed for them to access that support. But other times they might need 6 or 12 weeks and in these cases that person would be logged on their system. There are a wide variety of demographic who attend the services and now it's in a more accessible place, the number is expected to grow. The prevention work needs to be bigger than the acute work and MIND want to shape and influence what is delivered by other services locally to support the mental health of our residents.

Following that I met up with a local youth worker, local police officers and the Reverend of St Faith's to discuss setting up a project at Centre Point in the same style as that at the Beacon. I attended its launch in April and was heartened to see how many children and young people attended and how they appeared to enjoy the event. I'll watch out for an expected decrease in the cases of anti-social behaviour in that area the same as has happened around the Beacon Church.

I attended a regular health and wellbeing partnership meeting which showed that referral numbers for Active Now courses have significantly increased which should mean that our residents are keeping fitter than they otherwise would have been. But it also noted that the programme has struggled with referrals from GPs. This is often seen as a barrier for engagement with a variety of different programmes. But the framework for action is about adopting a locality approach and getting the people of West Norfolk active. We heard more about the expansion of Place, which is a Sports England initiative. I will be attending a two-day training programme on this on the 14th and 17th June. We had an update about changes to the way the QEH will work differently and will deliver services in different places for the falls prevention programme. Acute patients will be seen at the QEH, but non acute will be seen in the community. They listed their 3 priorities for the year ahead – Urgent and Emergency Care, health Inequalities and Systems. We then heard from local organisations who were applying for funding, one of which was the Sisterhood Village I referred to earlier in my report. We then heard from the QEH and their new strategy for the future which is around Quality, Engagement and Healthy Lives, under which 9 strategic objectives have been developed. We learnt that while our hospital can't become a university hospital, it can become a teaching hospital.

On Tuesday April 8th I have the pleasure of spending the morning with Ady of West Norfolk Community Transport and seeing first-hand the work that the organisation undertakes. It was really uplifting to hear the complimentary comments that were made about Ady, the other drivers and the organisation in general. The most frequently used word was "lifeline". WNCT offer a door-to-door service for those in King's Lynn who have joined as a member of the organisation and pay a small, £10 per annum fee. They are then charged £4 per journey. We collected people from their homes and took them into town, or to a GP Surgery. We collected one gentleman from the hospital and then transported him back home. WNCT offer far more than a mere lift to and from a location. The staff who drive are helpful, courteous and recognise that the people they are transporting are individuals with their own needs and who, with the support the service offers, can still live independently despite

advancing years. WNCT do offer services outside the King's Lynn area, but they are more limited. They can also do group trips, for example, for residents of a supported housing complex like Hanover, to go to places like Springfield shopping, or for a day at the coast. This goes such a long way to alleviating the loneliness that can easily occur when you're living alone. It maintains the independence of the person so they can continue to contribute to their community. I've recently sent you all further details about the services that are on offer from WNCT and to direct any of your older residents to them. Many of you got in touch following receipt of that information to say that you'd be passing it on to your parish councils, so thank you.

It was pointed out by Cllr Lintern that cabinet reports would benefit from having updates on the matters we have previously reported on. So, with this in mind I'll go back to WNCT at some point and ask them how their numbers have fared, hoping that more people will have taken up membership to access the service and so reduce social isolation and loneliness and continue to live independently. Having asked and got this organisation to come and speak at the Friendship Café I attend on a weekly basis, I'm as keen as anyone to see more people use them.

I popped into a Help Hub networking day on Tuesday 16th April. The Help Hub provides our residents with joint support from multi agency teams. It's designed to stop people needing more in-depth services later on. The event was put on to help front line staff find out more about the Help Hub and how it can enable these services to support individuals and families that they interact with. The event invited professionals from a range of support services and charities to attend and it gave them a chance to showcase their services and develop stronger partnership links. There were about 16 partners that attended and I noticed that there was a real buzz in the room. All these partners were talking to each other and learning more about how they could work better together to the benefit of our residents. I've asked that the Help Hub team look at how we can collect some data to evidence better outcomes for those that they support.

We've held further successful Beat the Bills events and these are leading to people being able to improve their financial situation taking note of the advice that they receive. I saw for myself how one Downham resident just "popped in" and was still there about an hour later getting advice regarding benefits which she wasn't aware she was entitled to. This resident will hopefully find herself less worse off than before she attended.

On Tuesday 23rd I and Cllrs Ring and De Whalley met with the manager of West Norfolk Disability Information Service – WNDIS. This organisation provides exceptional value for money, bringing £1 million into our local economy through their benefit support. For every £1 spent on the service they bring in £16. They receive funding from a variety of different sources, but it really amounts to a very small sum for the amount of work that they do. They support SEND and educational tribunals as well as PIP tribunals – 50 of which they supported last year. The group have developed some online training to give people knowledge of how best to fill in a PIP application and they advised us that social prescribers can fill in PIP forms. As a result of our meeting I went away and asked Freebridge how many of their properties are accessible.

On Monday 29th April I attended a group meeting of Breath Easy which runs monthly sessions from the Gaywood Church Rooms. At this event I spoke of the work our energy efficiency officer is doing and how many of those who attend this group would benefit from getting in touch with him. The energy efficiency measures could help vulnerable people remain in stronger health and less likely to need hospitalisation. Keeping warm and dry is vital to their health.

On April 30th I met with the Health and Wellness manager of Lynnsport and learnt more about the work that is being done there to keep our residents strong, healthy and well. They have previously delivered the former GP referral scheme which then moved into the wellness scheme. Health professionals refer in, but they do it in a reactive and not proactive way. They also take part in the Falls Prevention scheme and people can self-refer in. This is a 10-week seat to chair aerobics course running from 8 venues. There's also a Just Move programme which again, residents can self-refer into. Lynnsport also provide an outpatient's pathway to do cardiac rehabilitation and then come out to the community and undertake cardiac rehabilitation. The staff at Lynnsport do a lot of health checks, including coming to our council for events like International Women's Day. There are low-cost gym groups in other venues in the area, but they staff in those can't offer the same services as our own Lynnsport staff do which includes having a cardiac rehab specialist. Lynnsport works alongside the QEH to offer a cancer wellbeing centre, working with people who have had cancer, on a one-to-one basis. This is low volume and high quality and will enable our residents to remain in better health than otherwise. We discussed the importance of the social side of all the referral schemes and the social popularity of Lynnsport, including the bar and snack area. As a frequent user of the whole facility, I can vouch for the importance of the facility on my own wellbeing and that includes the importance on mental health alongside the physical.

I took part in a photocall on May 1st about Sandi Starfish. This was named after Sandi Greenacre, a popular PCSO who died in a tragic car accident. She was also a friend of mine, and I hadn't realised that the scheme was named after her. This made it even more important and personal to me and I was glad to have been able to take part. I hope that it keeps the children who use our beaches safer by making their parents aware of what they can do – take a picture of their child, take note of where on the beach they are and call 999 if their child goes missing. These are simple steps to keep children safe. I visited our Housing Standards team in South Lynn on Thursday 2nd and was really impressed with the work that they do to try to improve the standard of housing in our borough which in turn improves the lives of our residents who live in those houses.

Like many others in the borough, I ran GEAR on May 5th. This annual event really contributes towards the happiness and health of those who participate and those who spectate. I know I get boosted by the support of the spectators I know that the event wouldn't be half as pleasurable to do without them all. This year Greyfriars school boosted our spirits by providing jelly sweets and fruit for the runners. It was great. The two choirs along the way helped keep us going too. A huge thank you to all those who support the event and ensure it takes place. The volunteers make such a huge difference

to the way in which this event is run and managed.

I was proud to take part in a presentation to the Contractor of the year, which we awarded to CDA – Charles D Allflatt. A local contractor we have had a long association with. Their customers spoke very highly of the operatives who attended their homes to make necessary adaptations to allow them to continue living independently for longer.

Later that day I attended the 1st Birthday Celebrations of the Purfleet Pantry. The group have been nominated for a prestigious MJ Award and on Friday 21st We'll find out if they've been successful. Regardless of whether they win the award or not, they're winners to the people and community that they serve and for us as a council. Karen, Paula and the whole team really make a difference to the lives of the people that they support.

On Tuesday 14th May I went to Lynnsport and worked alongside the organisation we have tasked for discover what our residents think is important and where they like to go. It's part of our economic strategy and we're engaging with stakeholders on ambitions and priorities. What will follow is a draft of the vision, strategic and investment priorities. I was there as our people and communities are fundamental to getting the vision right and we want to ensure that our area is a good place to live, work, visit and invest. We want to support our people and communities to access opportunities, creating better quality, higher skilled jobs across sectors. This has come about as a result of the announcement of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund Investment. Bearing in mind we're heading to a General Election and the funding has not yet been released, I suspect an incoming government will review this and we may well not get what has been promised.

I had a meeting with a member of the Mancroft Advice Project (MAP) on Friday 17th May. This organisation supports those aged between 11-25 with a whole raft of different things. I suggested that they organise a hustings and have the young people chair the event and ask questions of the general election candidates. This is taking place on June 27th, which disappointingly means I'm going to miss it as we have full council that evening. I have suggested that members of the group also attend a full council meeting and submit a question to one of the cabinet and observe how our meetings are conducted, so watch this space!

I was thrilled to attend the launch of our bike hire service at Lynnsport later the same day. Bikes can be hired for £10 a day for adults, £5 for Juniors, £5 for trailers and they're open from 4pm – 10pm Monday to Friday and 10am till 6pm at the weekends. The hire period is 24 hours so this represents good value. It will encourage families to use active travel and increase their level of activity.

I enjoyed a holiday away with my family towards the end of the month so have a gap in reporting.

I attended a Dentistry briefing for councillors on my return on 31st May where we heard of the long term dental plan. While it's laudable, I don't think it goes far enough and much of this is because of the challenges with the national contract and how dentists are paid for their activity. It does nothing to incentivise dentists to take on NHS contracts and there's little to encourage dentists to come to our area. We know we don't have enough dentists to meet all our needs and that's not set to change any time soon, sadly, even

with the plans to build the dental workforce.

I attended the Freedom of the Borough event awarded to RAF Marham on Thursday 6th June and was so proud to see so many members of our communities attend in support. It was a lovely event and the marching band were excellent.

The civic reception for the Mayor was on Sunday 9th June and it was interesting to learn more about the history behind the protocol from David Cole and the history of our borough from Dr Paul Richards. Both are a font of knowledge.

Finally, I report that I attended the ICB Health and Wellbeing Partnership Board meeting on Wednesday 12th June and learnt more about the strategy to address health inequalities and how the monitoring of the better care fund is going to change. Both will impact on us, but hopefully in a positive way.

2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

Legal Walk 13th June

Place Leadership Training 14th and 17th June

Celebration of 50 years of sharing at St Faith's – 16th June

Judging art for LD week 17th June

MJ awards – 21st June

Freebridge member briefing 26th June

Health and Wellbeing partnership 27th June

Peer Review 27th June

Southgates Mastplan Briefing

3 Meetings Attended and Meetings Scheduled

KLACC/KLAC/KLAC sifting

Portfolio Briefing – Housing

Portfolio briefings – Health and Wellbeing

Portfolio Briefings – CIC

QEH briefings

GRT briefings

Full Council

Creating communities

Beat the Bills

Energy efficiency briefing

MIND visit

Targeted Youth Support meeting

Health and wellbeing partnership meetings (monthly)

Walk and talk – PCs C Geary and D Brock

Padel Court development discussions

West Norfolk Community Transport

E&C

Knights Hill Development briefing

Help Hub

Pizza Project

Clear-Hold-Build

Freebridge meetings (monthly)

Economic Strategy discussion

Joint Group Meetings
Shareholder training
WNDIS meeting
Cabinet/special cabinet/cabinet sifting/Cabinet Briefings
Improving support for care leavers briefing
Local Hero Award (well done Bharti)
IDB meetings
Breathe Easy
Food for Thought
King's Lynn Community Football
Sandi Starfish
Housing standards team visit
Planning/planning training
Guildhall Briefings
Contractor of the year award
1st Birthday Purfleet Pantry
Economic strategy consultation
Council AGM
MAY/YAB meeting
Lynnsport Bike Launch
Homelessness and housing delivery briefing
Dentistry briefing
Neighbourhood plan briefing
Freedom of the Borough special event
Inauguration of the Mayor
ICS at NCC

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

27th June 2024

Councillor Simon Ring - Cabinet Member for Tourism, Events and Marketing

To 17 June 2024

Leisure

Lynnsport have continued to work very hard with events and community engagement. There has been a small increase in the use of the Skateboard Park. The Gymnastic Hall has been refurbished and is back to full use and Cllr Ben Jones and I were treated with a demonstration from the tumblers and floor dancers. Cllr Jones much enjoyed having a go on the trampoline!

It is worth mentioning that the Gymnastics club is 50 years old this year, the same age as the Borough Council. It is also worth noting that one lad tumbling is a current age group national champion and we also have three regional champions.

I visited Reef at Sheringham, which used to be Splash, with Siobahn and Paul from AWN. We looked around the facility that was rebuilt last year and was wowed by the place. The income figures were very interesting too and showed us what could be done as a possible replacement for the Oasis.

I've had meetings with a Padel Tennis installer and the Lawn Tennis Association about the growth of Padel. We are studying the figures for installation of court, potentially at Lynnsport, Hunstanton and Downham Market, with funding support from the LTA. Padel is one of the fastest growing sports in the world and is an extremely accessible and adaptable sport. More to follow.

The LTA funding, with financial support from our Resort Reserves, has been released to resurface and refence the MUGA on the Rec at Hunstanton. This will be marked out for two tennis courts, a five aside football pitch and two netball courts. This is part of some real initiatives to increase the activity and economic use of the Rec which we lease from the Le Strange estate.

We are closing in on a decision for the future of Alive West Norfolk. Options have been presented to Cabinet in briefings and the next stage is a Joint Panels presentation on 18th June followed by Cabinet decision. Should changes be decided it is hoped they will have been implemented by April 2025.

I attended a meeting at Lynnsport with a number of partner groups to listen to a lady called Rachel Hutchinson from Able2B in Norwich. Her inspirational talk about how they get disabled young people to focus on what they can achieve rather than what they can't do was inspiring and it was clear from the group that this is the model that the Adaptive Sports Hub and elements of Lynnsport and the COWA will work with. It gave a much clearer understanding that inclusivity for these young people starts with providing a safe space first as a starting point on the journey to inclusion.

Culture

Art Reach have been appointed to create the Culture and Heritage Strategy. This is one of the things that the National Heritage Lottery Fund felt was missing when a bid for funds went to them for the Guildhall project. An Arts Council grant has funded the creation of the strategy and Art Reach were appointed after a tendering process. Consultation events will be held from July and key individuals will be included in that process. If anyone wishes to ensure that certain people or organisations are included please let me know.

The purpose of developing a strategy is to align the needs of organisations and residents to strategic decisions over the next 10-15 years. The intention is that the strategy will strengthen joint approaches and attract investment to the Borough to develop culture for all.

Culture is everything about us and I hope that we can gather together a wide and all inclusive group of people to help formulate the strategy for the good of all in the Borough and to inform the way we mould our vision for the future.

Both The Festival and Festival Too have launched their programmes for the summer. Both programmes are receiving plaudits for the qualities of the performers and events contained and I very much look forward to attending as many events as possible over the next two months.

The Guildhall continues to have displays and exhibitions, working around the ongoing archaeological work and the ever-shortening timeframe to the start of major works.

Heritage

We are so fortunate in this Borough to own, or have on long leases, some wonderful heritage assets. This is both a blessing and a curse. These assets take a considerable amount of resource to maintain and keep open for use, and this past year has been a journey towards understanding what is needed to sustain these assets and for us all to take advantage of our fortunate ownership. Volunteers have a central part to play in the evolution of how we protect and promote our heritage and I am delighted to report that there are a very large number out there to step forward and support. What is less delightful is the way they feel and have been treated for some years. We need to respect and value these volunteers if we want to succeed.

The organisation 'Friends of the Walks' had all but died, but recently, thanks to the passion of a few, the organisation has had a new breath of life and is now working very closely with our hard-working open spaces team. I have very high hopes of keeping the Red Mount and Southgates open more and fulfil the expectations of visitors and residents who wish to enjoy our heritage.

What is clear to me is that we need to create a position of 'Volunteer Co-ordinator'. It is crazy to expect volunteers to organise and manage volunteers. That person ceases to support, the whole thing comes tumbling down. By showing the commitment to keep the assets open and active we will also be demonstrating to potential funders that we are serious about making full use of our assets and for them to be part of our vision for the future. We are working on a bid for funds to create the position which I hope will prove to be self-funding within two years.

The Guildhall project is moving towards RIBA stag 4 and we held a public engagement on May 9th to display the RIBA stage 3 plans. The feedback will be made public soon, but the general comments were very positive with many that were previously sceptical and negative, now showing a renewed enthusiasm for the project.

Tourism and Marketing

This continues to be a concern with a department that is woefully under resourced and trying to touch so many things. In the portfolio reshuffle we have combined Business with Culture and now have Tourism and Marketing within the Business portfolio where it belongs. Tourism is the Borough's biggest industry sector and by recognizing that and focusing on its role in the economic development of both the Borough as a whole, and indeed the Council itself as we get to grips with understanding the monetary opportunities that we have with the wonderful heritage assets we have.

Events

Our events team continue to do their thing. I have listened to many outside agencies comment with great praise for the team. I also have heard many visitors and newcomers to the Borough comment on what an amazing array of events we hold here. At a recent business forum representatives of some of the key businesses in the Borough said "whatever you do, keep the events, it helps us recruit and retain staff". This highlights the symbiotic relationship between the economic development and the need to celebrate our culture in order to make this a place where people want to live and work.

The events team will, this season, be aided by the arrival of a new stage which will allow them to support more events that are put on around the Borough. Its first outing will be at Hunstanton shortly, followed by the Festival Too programme.

This weekend's Hanse Faestival sees the embedding of this event back into

the season. This year's event has been arranged at relatively short notice and the committee has done a fantastic job, working closely with the events team, to put on an event that managed to dodge the bad weather. They will now go straight into organizing next year's event which will be the 20th anniversary of the first modern Hanse festival and will honour the memory of the late Alderman Nick Daubney.

Events have been moved out of my portfolio and will be reported on by Cllr Anota from now on.

Meetings Attended and Meetings Scheduled

I have had numerous meetings with officers and outside bodies

Officers

Lorraine Gore
Debbie Gates
Oliver Judges
Duncan Hall
Martin Chisholm
Jemma Curtis
Tim Fitzhigham
Honor Howell
Jane Hamilton
James Grant
James Arrandale
Alexa Baker
Tommy Goode

Outside bodies

Civic Society
Town Guides
Festival
Hunstanton Action Group
Old Lenensians
Norfolk Records Committee
Norfolk Museums Committee
Friends of the Walks
Kings Lynn Museum
Stories of Lynn and Archives
Conservancy Board
Downham Market Town Council Committee

I have regular scheduled meetings with most of the above officers and will continue to meet and fact find with outside bodies including those already met

with.

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

27th June 2024

COUNCILLOR BEALES – LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

For the period 22nd March 2024 to 27th June 2024

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Florence Field

Following the appointment of a replacement groundworker, works have progressed well. There is renewed momentum for the scheme, and the most advanced plots now having roof trusses in place. The focus of works is towards opening a show home and commencing sales this year.

Whilst we still await confirmation for a date when Network Rail will repair the culvert (as you may recall, this issue necessitated holding surface water on site, hindering some groundwork activities), we understand that the Internal Drainage Board (IDB) has approved Network Rail's technical design. This means these works could begin sometime soon.

More importantly in the short term, the IDB has granted Lovell a temporary consent to discharge water through the culvert while repairs are pending. While the discharge rate is lower than the final approved rate, it will be sufficient for works to progress.

Legal works surrounding the removal of the redundant existing gas main that crossed the site have also concluded, with the exchange of contracts expected to take place as soon as possible. This, along with the surface water discharge, means that two of the largest project risks have been mitigated, putting the project in a good position to move forward.

Sales are expected to commence in the coming months, with first occupations anticipated for late this year or early next year.

There have been a number of school engagements in the last month, with Lovell and Borough Council staff visiting Howard Junior School. This forms part of a continuing program of school engagements that the partnership has committed to as part of the Parkway delivery project.

Salters Road

Again, following the appointment of a new groundworker (different from the one at Florence Field), momentum on the project has fully returned. The next handover of 10 properties to FCH is due on July 10th, bringing the total delivered to 33 out of 78. While there has been a delay due to the previous groundworker, all homes are still expected to be completed this year. We retain a good working relationship with Freebridge and are working together to deliver the remainder of the scheme.

Lynnsport 1 – Valentine Park

Terms of contract have been agreed with Lovell Partnerships Ltd for the next major housing development in our programme, with an officer delegated decision having been published accordingly. Subject to the decision not being called in, contracts for Lynnsport 1, 96 high quality units on the site of the former hockey pitches, should be signed imminently. Commencement of works should quickly follow, hopefully starting at the end of June or early July, with ground stabilisation. The first homes are expected to be delivered in 2025.

Southend Road

Scaffold has started to be removed at Southend Road and the architectural quality of the building has met expectation and looks fantastic. A show home will be completed in July, supporting the sales process that until now has seen limited interest, almost certainly due to our inability to show the fantastic product that has been delivered. Works are currently forecast for completion in October, and while this is a significant overall delay, the Borough is working closely with Lovell to ensure that this revised deadline will be met and that the financial impact of the delay is minimised.

Active Travel Hubs

The delivery of the active travel hubs on the Nar Ouse Enterprise Zone and Baker Lane car park edges forward. The Borough Council has appointed Pulse Project Managers to support the process. Consultants, Pulse Consult, and officers within the corporate projects team are working closely with Morgan Sindall to enter into a Professional Services Contract. This will allow the scheme design and planning application to progress, with Morgan Sindall prepared to deliver the hubs subject to a subsequent contractual appointment.

Riverfront

Extended pre application advice being sought from Historic England for Custom house designs. Devil's Alley and Dry Side planning applications have been submitted and are awaiting verification (may be verified by time of council meeting).

Rail to River

Sewer connection issue with pop up units, being resolved. Corten will then be installed and units marketed. Artwork at the railway station and St James Pool being installed 18th/19th June.

Southgates

The corporate project team, in partnership with the Regeneration Team and Norfolk County Council, has assembled a consultancy team to take the project forward. This team includes Pulse Consult (Project Management), BDP (Architects), and Lambert Smith Hampton (Property & Viability Consultancy).

The consultancy team will work concurrently with the NCC-led STARS highway design. They will develop proposals for the adjacent development plots and public realm areas, aiming to create a coordinated design proposal for the entire area. This proposal will provide a suitable setting for the Southgates Monument while maximising project feasibility.

A detailed stakeholder engagement process has now commenced to inform these proposals. Alongside other stakeholders Members will be consulted on the scheme in the coming weeks and months through a program of meetings, events, and formal briefings. This phase of the project will conclude with a report to members with recommendations regarding development delivery options.

UK Shared Prosperity Funding Project Call 2024/25

Following a two stage grant application process with an opportunity for West Norfolk organisations to secure between £10,000-£50,000 funding for investment into projects that operate within the themes of Communities and Place, or People and Skills, the panel agreed to award grant funding totally £260k to six projects. Further details will be announced in due course.

W Norfolk Rural England Prosperity Fund: Community Capital Grants

Following a two stage grant application process managed by the Norfolk Community Foundation, grants totalling £242k for 8 projects have been awarded to community organisations in West Norfolk for projects ranging from £10,000-£50,000 (capital funding). The aim of the fund is to support investment into the creation or improvement of buildings or equipment to enhance and strengthen community assets, facilities and local provision for delivery in 2024/25. Further details of these projects will be announced in due course.

UKREiiF Conference

A small officer team from the Council attended the largest Real Estate, Infrastructure and Investment conference in the UK during May in Leeds. The team were supporting Norfolk County Council in promoting investment opportunities in Norfolk, and particularly in West Norfolk promoting the opportunities available in King's Lynn at the newly rebranded King's Lynn Enterprise Park (formally Nar Ouse Business Park) and through the Town Deal programme.

Business Support

As many will be aware, the New Anglia Growth Hub are supported through the West Norfolk Shared Prosperity Fund programme until March 2026 to provide business support, advice, grants and guidance for aspiring and growing SMEs. They will be providing a range of training for businesses during September 24 – March 25, further details to follow, and once available I would urge fellow members to share details with local businesses in their wards and parishes.

In addition, the Growth Hub will be running a further 'KLIC & Connect' drop in event on 19 June 2024 at KLIC to provide businesses with an opportunity to network and seek advice, information and support on a range of topics including:

- Plots and premises available on the King's Lynn Enterprise Park
- How KLIC can help your business.
- Business support available in West Norfolk from organisations like Menta (start up support), Chamber of Commerce, Federation of Small Businesses and project Boost
- How innovation can help a business grow
- Available grants and funding including the West Norfolk Training Grants, West Norfolk Rural Business Grants, Go Digital

Business Development Officer

I would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the retirement in April of the Council's Business Development Officer for the last 23 years, Paul Harrison. Many of you will know of Paul's commitment and support to businesses across West Norfolk, supporting them with accessing grants, finding land and premises and multimillion pound growth and expansion of businesses. He was also pivotal to securing the £400m investment from Palm Paper to West Norfolk; the largest inward investment in the East of England at that time (2008) and securing the presence of the RAF Marham Tornado and the associated workforce and businesses that are based in West Norfolk supporting the RAF operations. Many businesses have expressed their thanks and gratitude for Paul's dedicated work and support and I wholeheartedly endorse that.

2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.
 Long Term Plan for Towns <p>The Government's advisor to the new Long Term Plan for Towns programme, Adam Hawkesbee, visited King's Lynn on 17 April on his tour of all towns included in the programme. He took part in an engagement planning workshop and spoke with a number of businesses and community representatives. The team are now working on the next stage of community consultation and engagement (plans for which are being revised following the notification of a general election). This will inform the development of our 10 year Long Term Plan for King's Lynn and priorities for investment to submit to government for approval in the autumn (subject to any changes in guidance from government following the general election).</p>