

## CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

24 September 2015

### **COUNCILLOR BRIAN LONG - CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT**

For the period 30 July to 14 September 2015.

#### **1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.**

##### **Emergency Planning**

At the end of August (over bank holiday weekend) we experienced the highest astronomical tides of the year and as a precaution new flood gates in Hunstanton were closed by resort services staff as flood alerts were issued. The tides passed off without any flooding and gates worked as anticipated. With tides coming in slightly below predictions due in part to High pressure.

##### **Wash East Coast Management Strategy**

During July the Environment Agency Board gave its final approval to the Strategy, following acceptance by the Borough Council. The Community Interest Company is already collecting contributions from business and local land owners to meet payments required for next sand / gravel recycling operation.

##### **Brown Bins**

The number of brown bins in use at the end of August has risen to 22,132 an increase of 257 bins since end of July. In keeping with our wish to see the service operate as efficiently as possible we are now encouraging payment by direct debit, with a reduction for those paying via this method, other payments methods are still available although the £5 saving for paying by DD seems to be favoured by most customers.

##### **SNAPS**

The first round of new format Safer Neighbourhood Action Panels happened across the borough on 10<sup>th</sup> August. The three meetings replaced the previous nine and I can report that the Downham Market SNAP that replaced the Downham, Watlington and Terrington Snaps was well attended with representation across the area. Reports I have had said that Kings Lynn area was well attended, however Hunstanton area was not so well represented from area outside of the town.

## **2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.**

### **Recycling Rates and Contamination.**

We are still concerned at high levels of contamination within the recycling collection and the resultant loss of recycling at the NEWS Plant. To help counter this further work is being done in conjunction with the Norfolk Waste Partnership, including more compositional analysis of the waste and recycling streams. I will report further once this information is fully collated, but would remind everyone that recycling should be placed in the recycling bins loose and not placed in carrier bags or bin liners.

## **3 Meetings Attended and Meetings Scheduled**

In addition to my usual round of Portfolio and Cabinet Meetings I have also attended the following:

Police and Crime Panel

Joint Safety and Welfare

Meeting with bidders East Anglian Rail Franchise

Freebridge Community Housing Board Meeting & Various Induction Meetings

To be attended at the time of writing

Kings Lynn Internal Drainage Board

Kings Lynn Conservancy Board