

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

25 January 2022

COUNCILLOR BRIAN LONG - CABINET MEMBER FOR CORPORATE SERVICES.

For the period 2 December 2021 to 12 January 2022

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Cremations & Burials to December 2021.

During 2021 the total number of Cremations at Mintlyn Crematorium was 2092, with 61 Burials in our borough cemeteries. This compares to 2020 when there was 2032 Cremations and 85 Burials.

Looking back to years preceding the pandemic, numbers cremated have not varied greatly, for example in 2015 there were 2032 cremations and 2019 there was 1988, however 2016, 17 and 18 all saw higher numbers (over 2100)

Car Parking

I think it would be encouraging to note that, despite the Omicron fears, King's Lynn short term car parking stays in December recovered to approaching 87% of those recorded in December 2019 with over 104,000 stays, which is the largest monthly total since December 2019. This result is helped by efforts made by the King's Lynn BID, the Council and Traders in encouraging people back into town with promotions and activities. Events being able to proceed in December such as the Pantomime at the Corn Exchange will have also helped.

Kings Court

Works to install and commission an Air Source heating system concluded at the end of December, allowing the service yard back into normal operation.

Staff within our buildings have maintained operations throughout the pandemic with additional safety measures as required. We have not appeared to have had any worse numbers infected than the general population, whilst maintaining our services. My thanks goes to each staff member in doing what they can to stay safe and keep operational. Cleaning and disinfecting regimes continue as before.

Town Hall

At our last Full Council and other face to face meetings the need to keep windows open to maintain ventilation led to a very cold meeting, I am hoping that the mechanical ventilation at the Corn Exchange will mean a better experience for the next full council meetings.

2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

Upwell Cemetery

On my last report and following a question from Cllr Spikings I can now confirm that Upwell Parish Council have agreed to take over the running and operation of the Upwell Cemetery on a permanent basis. There will now be discussions and formalities to put this in place going forward. This wont of course impact the ongoing burials / maintenance as the PC had already been carrying this out on an informal basis.

3 Meetings Attended and Meetings Scheduled

In addition to my usual round of portfolio and Cabinet meetings I have also attended the following face to face and virtual meetings.

Meeting with Upwell PC ref Cemetery

West Norfolk Housing Company

Planning (as sub)

Meeting with Baden Powell Boat Trust

Alive West Norfolk Directors

Water Management Alliance (Management Group)

Planning Committee training session

Special Cabinet

To be attended at time of writing

Alive West Norfolk Board

Kings Lynn Internal Drainage Board

East of Ouse Drainage Board

Norfolk Strategic Flooding Alliance

Regional Flood and Coastal Committee

Norfolk Parking Partnership

County Lines Briefing for Members

West Norfolk Property Co.