

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

14 July 2022

COUNCILLOR PAUL KUNES—CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT

For the period 25th April to 14th July 2022

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

I am pleased to report that we have successfully applied for further PSDS funding, this time supporting the installation of air source heat pumps and cavity wall insulation at Enterprise Works. Following approval at management team, our contractors Ameresco have been instructed to provide a detailed design/investment grade proposal, having already completed a high level assessment of the building and proposed measures (which formed the basis of our grant application). Two end of life warm air gas-fired heaters are due to be replaced with 5 x air source heat pumps. There will also be an electrical upgrade to support the increased demand.

The Enterprise Works project has an anticipated value of £296,720, of which £159,817 is to be covered by the PSDS grant. The remainder will need be contributed by the council.

The heat pumps and insulation are expected to deliver annual carbon savings of 23.32 tonnes per annum. In the short term, running costs are predicted to increase; over the longer/medium term however, gas prices are anticipated to increase relative to electricity, such that the heat pumps will become cheaper to run than conventional gas-fired plant.

Further meetings have taken place with the Energy Saving Trust, who are conducting a review of the Council Vehicle fleet, with a view to moving over to Electrically powered vehicles where possible. This will take place over several years as older vehicles become due for renewal.

Funding has been secured to provide 52 charging points in seven locations across west Norfolk ensuring that people with limited access to off-street parking can still choose an electric vehicle.

- The charge points are due to be installed this autumn and will be located in car parks near residential areas that have little or no off-street parking.
- There are many factors in making the decision to go electric and access to charging facilities is one of them. Lack of off-street parking at home can pose a barrier but we are removing that by making nearby charging facilities available.
- This means it will be easier for people to make an environmentally-friendly choice when buying a vehicle and it will also benefit our visitors who arrive in electric vehicles.

- The borough council secured a grant of £195,000 from the government's Office for Zero Emission Vehicles (OZEV) and a further contribution of nearly £90,000 from BP Pulse, as well as its own contribution of £73,500. The council has also spent a further £87,000 to install a substation at Austin Street to support the electricity supply and BP Pulse will cover the maintenance costs for 7 years.
- The chargers are fast 7kW chargers which are designed for overnight charging or for extended use. The electricity used will be paid for using an app.
- All will be installed in car parks owned by the council. Free parking will be provided between 6pm and 8am when a vehicle is charging, to ensure accessibility to residents that need to charge overnight.
- EV charging points will be installed at the following locations:
 - North Street Car Park, Burnham Market
 - Valentine Road, Hunstanton
 - Chapel Street Car Park, Kings Lynn
 - Fairstead, Centre Point Car Park, Kings Lynn
 - Gaywood Library Car Park, Kings Lynn
 - Lynnsport North Car Park, Kings Lynn,
 - Austin Street East Car Park, Kings Lynn

2 Community Safety & Neighbourhood Nuisance Team

Fly-tipping

I am pleased to report that a major illegal tipping and burning operation has at last been closed down. Environment Agency officers, accompanied by the Police issued a stop order on the site. Any further incidents will immediately result in a Court appearance. Further investigations are ongoing.

3. Refuse.

The change in refuse collection rounds and days was achieved with only a few minor hiccups. Some advice leaflets were sent out in error, and a couple of minor route changes had to be made. There were very few complaints to Serco or the Borough.

4. Meetings Attended and Meetings Scheduled

Cabinet
 Portfolio briefing: -Climate Change, Recycling and Refuse collection and Licensing.
 Flood and Coastal erosion matters.
 Cabinet Briefings
 Budget briefings
 CPP
 E&C

LGA Coastal Special Interest Group (SIG)
Friends of the Earth, Klimate Concern
QEH Board of Governors
Kings Lynn Conservancy Board.

Most of the above meetings held on line, although there is a gradual return to face to face meetings were it is felt necessary.