

## **CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL**

**19 OCTOBER 2023**

### **COUNCILLOR BAL ANOTA CABINET MEMBER FOR PROPERTY AND CORPORATE SERVICES**

For the period 24 August to 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023

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

##### **Management and maintenance of council owned property assets: including industrial estates, Kings Court, Town Hall and the Depot, Public conveniences, Crematorium and Cemeteries.**

Since the last Full Council in August, I have the following to report:

- **Kings Court**

We are still waiting to hear about the accommodation requirements of one of the sub-tenants that occupies part of King's Court. It is likely that this tenant will seek to reduce their area of occupation within King's Court and the team is looking at options for the use of this space. One option is to bring a service area back into King's Court that currently occupies some commercial premises on one of the industrial estates. If we take this option, we will then be able to market the freed-up commercial (office) premises and generate an additional rental revenue income stream.

- **Commercial Rent Arrears**

The Property team, together with the Finance team, continue to manage the payment plans set up with the commercial tenants that have accrued rent arrears over the past few years. Most tenants are complying with the payment plans, making their payments, and reducing their arrears. We still have one tenant that the team is working with, and we are getting to a point where some difficult decisions may need to be made. The Property team has made every effort to seek a resolution to the outstanding issues with this particular tenant however there comes a point when matters need to be concluded once and for all.

- **Crematorium**

The Mintlyn Crematorium held its first Macmillan coffee morning, Residents were invited to pop in, make a voluntary donation and enjoy a tea or coffee with some cake in the beautiful surroundings of the crematorium. This was also a fantastic opportunity for visitors to explore the picturesque grounds, Macmillian do so much to support people that are suffering with cancer, and I would like to thank the team at the Mintlyn for organising this event.

**Management of other council assets including (but not limited to) car parking**

## and CCTV Matters,

A Member Briefing Session on the Nar Ouse Regeneration Area and the Enterprise Zone was provided by the Assistant Director Property & Projects and the Regeneration Programmes Manager on the 4<sup>th</sup> October. I hope that those councillors who attended the briefing found the session informative and useful. For those who could not attend, the briefing session was recorded and is available for members to view on ModGov. This is one of the council's largest schemes and crosses several portfolios within Cabinet. The scheme is implementing significant infrastructure to open up commercial development land, building speculative commercial units, and is seeking to draw in significant private sector investment that will ultimately contribute to the wider local economy of King's Lynn and west Norfolk. The Property & Projects and Regeneration teams have worked hard to deliver this extremely challenging site, and it is exciting to see significant movement on what is potentially one of the largest development sites in the east of England.

## Car Parking

		April	May	June	July	August	September		
Burnham Market	2022	2631	2727	3632	4148	5502	3103	21743	
	2023	2631	2443	2571	3403	4992	2940	18980	
								-2763	87%
Heacham	2022	3669	3150	4596	6129	7139	3434	28117	
	2023	3404	3647	4239	3836	5736	4200	25062	
								-3055	89%
Hunstanton	2022	35535	31677	37938	50833	72416	26884	255283	
	2023	35147	34330	38475	37567	62436	36041	243996	
								-11287	96%
Kings Lynn	2022	107252	112278	110694	114095	116849	109663	670831	
	2023	114187	156736	111451	122645	119448	111029	735496	
								.	110%

Again. Whilst it is pleasing to see King's Lynn numbers continue to hold their own above last year, it is clear to see how the prolonged period of poor weather has impacted visitors to the coastal areas where number had dropped slightly.

## Parks and Open Spaces

- **Open Space**

West Norfolk won big in this year's Anglia in Bloom, with many trophies and certificates, this truly shows the hard work, dedication and pride of the team who carry all of this out in all-weather elements to produce these beautiful gardens and public spaces, this year has been overly challenging as the prolonged weather conditions, but I would personally like to thank all the grounds maintenance team, all the local community groups and volunteers, you have done West Norfolk proud and have made this a great place to live and work.

### **Health and Safety – property and buildings**

Councillors will be aware of the national issue in respect of RAAC [Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete] that has hit the national press lately, particularly with regard to school buildings. Although we do not deal with schools, I have asked the Property team to look into the council's premises to see if this could be a potential issue for us. The team has started the series of survey work, and I will report back to colleagues once this exercise has been completed.

### **Policy related to land and property acquisition and disposal and implementations of acquisition and disposal of land and property**

At the time of writing this report the proposed sale of land to the NHS for a new health facility at the Nar Ouse Regeneration Area (Enterprise Zone) was on the verge of legal completion. I will update councillors, hopefully with positive news, on the night of the Council meeting.

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

- Tour of Depot and Maintenance Team
- Tour of Retail Property Investments
- Integrated Care System Conference
- ISC District Council Meeting (Oct)
- Equality Training for Members

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

August

Wednesday 30th – Portfolio Meeting – Matthew Henry

Wednesday 30th – Cabinet Briefing – Council Chamber

Thursday 31st – Andrew Wallace (NCC) - Ward Drive Around

September

Thursday 7th – DMF Meeting – Kings Court

Friday 8th – Portfolio Meeting – Martin Chisholm

Saturday 9th – Beach Clean – Snettisham to Heacham – AM

Tuesday 12th – Portfolio Meeting – Matthew Henry, Tracy Brooker – Kings Court

Wednesday 13th – ICS District Council Meeting – Teams

Wednesday 13th – Cabinet Briefing – Council Chamber

Thursday 14th – Norfolk Parking Partnership Committee – NCC

Friday 15th – Portfolio Meeting – Martin Chisholm, Geoff Hall – Kings Court

Friday 15th – Portfolio Meeting – Matthew Henry

Friday 15th – Leziate Parish Council – Leziate VH

Tuesday 19th – School of Nursing Tour – CWA

Monday 25th – Portfolio Meeting – Martin Chisholm

Monday 25th – Cabinet Sifting – Council Chamber

Tuesday 26th – Cab MT SLT Away-Day – Council Chamber

Tuesday 26th – Cabinet Meeting – Council Chamber

Wednesday 27th – Portfolio Meeting – Matthew Henry, Oliver Judges, Tracy Brooker – Teams

Thursday 28th – Additional Full Council – Assembly Room

Friday 29th – Portfolio Meeting – Matthew Henry

Friday 29th – Portfolio Meeting – Oliver Judges

October

Monday 2nd – Planning Committee – Assembly Room

Monday 2nd – Portfolio Meeting – Matthew Henry

Tuesday 3rd – Portfolio Meeting – Martin Chisholm

Tuesday 3rd – Leaders meeting with PC Chairs – Assembly Room