

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

28 November 2024

COUNCILLOR BAL ANOTA - CABINET MEMBER FOR OPEN SPACE AND EVENTS

For the period 1 to 28 November 2024

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Fawkes in the Walks 2024

A record number of over 20,000 people came to enjoy our free fireworks display and entertainment in The Walks on Friday. It was a fantastic event and great to see many families enjoy it.

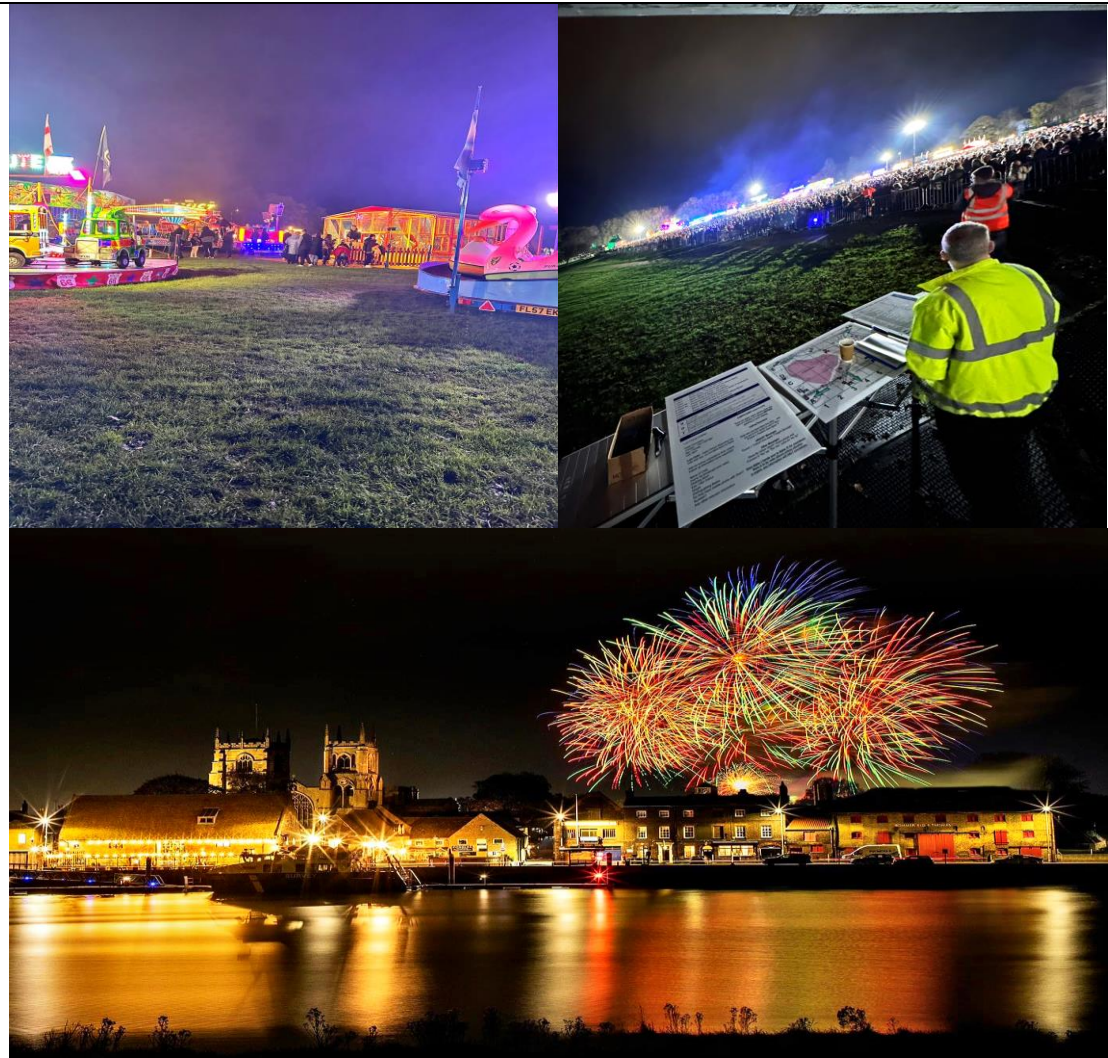
The Entertainment was provided by Top Cover and Bear Club which started a 6pm followed by the fireworks at 8pm, with more live music at the end. All hosted by Simon Rowe from Radio West Norfolk,

However, I was disappointed to hear that, despite the borough council putting on a professionally run display, somebody decided to set off their own fireworks minutes after our display had finished with a wayward firework entering the crowd in The Walks.

“I was concerned to hear that four people suffered minor injuries from this firework but reassuringly we had medical support on hand from a Doctor and Paramedics as part of our safety team who were able to help them so they could walk away from the park after they treated their wounds. I thank the staff for their quick actions and wish the four attendees a speedy recovery.

I would also like to thank all members our fantastic Open Space Team who ran the whole event to precision timings, and we are also extremely grateful to King’s Lynn Park Run whose runners volunteered to do a litter pick of The Walks before their run on Saturday morning.





Christmas Lights Switch On



Now to my favourite time of the year, this year we're adding even more festive magic to our town centre, there will be lots of family activities during the day and the lights will be turned on at 5pm on the 24th of November.

At 2pm there's live music on the borough council stage in the Tuesday Market Place. Popular upbeat songs will be performed by Soul Sisters, St Martha's School Choir will perform Christmas Carols, followed by music from

headliners Vex.

Meet Cinderella, ahead of this year's pantomime at the Corn Exchange. Cinderella will be available for photos from 3:30pm at the venue.

Simon Rowe from Radio West Norfolk will be playing Christmas hits in between the live music on stage in the Tuesday Market Place and after the Christmas lights switch-on there will be more festive classics from Vex.

A lantern parade will meander through town from 4:20pm, anyone with tambourines, triangles or other percussion instruments are invited to join the parade, that finishes in the Tuesday Market Place in time to see the lights switched on by the Mayor of King's Lynn & West Norfolk, Cllr Paul Bland, with help from Cinderella

The team are very busy this week with the preparation works ahead of this event.



Please check our website for further information

Mintlyn Crematorium



I was very pleased to be presenting a cheque for £11,600 with the Mayor and the team at Mintlyn to a fantastic Charity, Cradle charity has a national team of volunteers, CRADLE Ambassadors, who have lived experience of

pregnancy loss or termination. Cradle work with local hospitals and provide comfort bags filled with donated toiletries for anyone who has had an unexpected admission to hospital.

The money has been raised through a charitable scheme, operated by the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management (ICCM), of which Mintlyn is a member. Under the scheme metal from medical implants is recycled after cremation

Cemeteries

We are looking to bring an all member briefing forward regarding cemetery capacity space in King's Lynn. We have commissioned an independent survey to identify potential locations, and the costs associated with bringing these sites forward. I will keep all members updated on progress and potential dates.

Herbicide-Free Weed Control Demonstration

This demonstration stems from a public question being asked of me around insecticides and how often we use it, this got me thinking that if there a better way of doing this without the use of Insecticides, pesticides or herbicides, the team contacted a firm who do this for a demo at Kingsway Recreational Grounds.

Foamstream is a commercial herbicide-free weed control solution, which kills unwanted vegetation, including weeds, moss and algae using precise application of hot water insulated by a specially formulated biodegradable and organic foam.

I was particularly impressed with it's versatility and uses, it was like a Swiss army knife, this machine not only does weed control but many other things like, gum and some graffiti removal, urban cleaning of street signs, street sanitation, street furniture and lots of general cleaning as this also works as a hot/cold pressure washer with many attachments for every need.

Another great advantage of this was the long reach lance which can allow the operator to administer the product from a safe environment and will reduce any traffic congestions as it does not impede on the carriageway. Time will tell of this offers a viable alternative to traditional spraying.

Pictures below of the demo.....



2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

Portfolio Meetings
Planning Committee
Other Meetings

3 Meetings Attended and Meetings Scheduled

October 2024

17th – Ward Matters MD

17th – MAG001 Meeting

17th – Special Cabinet Meeting

17th – DMFC Sponsors Evening

18th – QE2 Hospital Site Visit

23rd – Portfolio Meeting – MC

27th – Ward Matters MD

28th – Kate Blackmore – Portfolio Meeting

29th – Sibelo Liaison Meeting

November 2024

1st – Fowkes in the Walks

4th - Planning Committee – TH

5th – Portfolio Meeting – MC

5th – Cabinet – CC

6th – Cabinet Briefing

8th – David Wiles

8th – ICCM Cheque Presentation – Mintlyn

8th – Ward Matters

8th – Leziate PC

14th – Weed Foam Demo