

# **COUNCIL MEETING**

# Agenda

Thursday, 10th September, 2020 at 3.00 pm

Remote Meeting on Zoom and available for the public to view on <a href="WestNorfolkBC">WestNorfolkBC</a> on You <a href="Tube">Tube</a>



King's Court, Chapel Street, King's Lynn, Norfolk, PE30 1EX

Telephone: 01553 616200

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2<sup>nd</sup> September 2020

**Dear Councillor** 

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk which will commence at 3.00 pm on Thursday, 10th September, 2020 via Remote Meeting on Zoom and available for the public to view on WestNorfolkBC on You Tube to transact the business shown below.

Yours sincerely

Lorraine Gore Chief Executive

#### **BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED**

## 1. PRAYERS

### 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

## 3. MINUTES

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 9 July 2020 (previously circulated).

### 4. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Please indicate if there are any interests which should be declared. A declaration of an interest should indicate the nature of the interest (if not already declared on the Register of Interests) and the agenda item to which it relates. If a disclosable pecuniary interest is declared, the member should withdraw from the room whilst the matter is discussed.

#### 5. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

To receive Mayor's communications and announcements.

#### 6. URGENT BUSINESS

To receive any items of business which in the opinion of the Mayor are urgent.

#### 7. PETITIONS AND PUBLIC QUESTIONS

To receive petitions and public questions in accordance with Standing Order 9.

### 8. CABINET MEMBERS REPORTS

In accordance with Standing Order 11.1 to receive reports from Cabinet Members in the following order and under Standing Order 11.2 (a) Members of the Council may ask questions of the Cabinet Member on their reports and Portfolio areas:

(Councillors are reminded that this is a question and answer session not a debate.)

- 1) Business Development Councillor G Middleton (Pages 7 10)
- 2) Commercial Services Councillor P Kunes (Pages 11 12)
- 3) **Development Councillor R Blunt** (Pages 13 18)
- 4) Housing Councillor A Lawrence (Pages 19 21)
- 5) **Project Delivery Councillor P Gidney** (Pages 22 26)
- 6) Deputy Leader and Culture, Heritage and Health Councillor Mrs E Nockolds (Pages 27 29)
- 7) Leader and Resources Councillor B Long (Pages 30 32)

#### 9. MEMBERS QUESTION TIME

In accordance with Standing Order 11.2 (b), Members of the Council may ask any questions of the Chair of any Council Body (except the Cabinet).

#### 10. NOTICES OF MOTION

i) To consider the following Notice of Motion (2/20), submitted by Councillor Francis Bone

"This Council welcomes the announcement, following questions raised by local Member of Parliament, James Wild, that the proposal for a new hospital in King's Lynn is "under active consideration".

This Council wishes to support the present Government in all its efforts to improve the health and well being of local residents, especially by promoting

active travel.

This Council further wishes to see greater use of public transport along routes such as Hardings Way in South Lynn to help reduce congestion and lower pollution on roads where people live such as London Road.

Therefore, this Council calls on all involved to work with Norfolk County Council, Highways England and local Members of Parliament towards the introduction of a Park and Ride system to further the aims of this Council and time the Government to help improve the health and well being of local people.

As a first step this Council will forthwith resist all attempts to introduce general traffic including HGVs on to public transport routes such as Hardings Way in South Lynn."

ii) To consider the following Notice of Motion (3/20), submitted by Councillor S Squire:

This council acknowledges that climate change is not the only challenge facing our natural environment. Therefore, this council agrees to ask Cabinet to set up a Cabinet task group, chaired by an appropriate portfolio holder, to work with our partners including Norfolk County Council and the Norfolk Biodiversity Partnership. Any recommendations on issues such as habitat protection and creation, the creation of a pollinator action plan and wildflower verges where possible, should be brought to Cabinet via the Environment & Community Panel before consideration at Council.

iii) To consider the following Notice of Motion (4/20), submitted by Councillor T Ryves:

That this Council acknowledges that one of our priorities is to support and encourage the long term improvement in health of all in the Borough and commits to continuing to promote actively good health.

In particular we thank our NHS bodies for their supreme professionalism and instructs its leaders to work with the East of England Ambulance Service Trust to explore ways in which this Council can actively assist EEAST in improving Ambulance Response Times to improve outcomes for our residents.

This Council notes the greatly improved reduction in ambulance handover delays at QEH from a target of 438 to 38 in the April to June quarter and also the successful completion of the apprenticeships for 4 qualified emergency medical technicians.

(iv) To consider the following Notice of Motion (5/20), submitted by Councillor S Squire:

Given the welcome commencement of works to extend the pontoons, which will encourage more visitor arrivals by water, increasing visitor numbers to the town and benefit local businesses. This council believes that improved facilities for pontoon users, such as showers and toilets etc would encourage more visitors and improve the visitor experience.

This council also believes it has a wealth of experience amongst all of it's councillors that should be taken into account and utilised when deciding on improvements to water based facilities and areas. Therefore, this council agrees to recreate the now defunct River Working Group, as a Cabinet task group to be chaired by a suitable portfolio holder, to discuss any ideas relating to facilities, their location and other river related issues and to make recommendations to Cabinet, and to council via appropriate panels.

Lorraine Gore Chief Executive

## 10 September 2020

For period 9<sup>th</sup> July 2020 to 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2020

# COUNCILLOR G MIDDLETON - PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

## 1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Accelerated towns fund

As councillors are aware Kings Lynn has been allocated £750k in accelerated town fund cash. This is not part of the £25m towns fund deal but is an extra for town fund areas. The money is to be bid for to deliver shovel ready projects that can be delivered over the course of the next few months. Just under 600k has been bid for to fund a school of nursing in partnership with the college and the QEH. The further 150k has been bid for to be used in improving open space and street scene in Kings Lynns town centre. We hope for a timely response from the government into whether our bid has been successful.

Current grant figures

Business grants . 3288 totalling £38,115,000 Discretion grants . 97 totalling £787,500

West Norfolk Consumers Keen To Shop Local As Businesses Feel Impact of Covid-19

West Norfolk consumers are keen to support local businesses as shops and services in the district feel the impact of Covid-19.

That's one of the findings from the Invest West Norfolk consultation which took place earlier this summer to understand consumer and business confidence in light of Covid-19.

In the consumer survey - which was carried out on behalf of the borough council and which saw over 150 people give their views - 96 per cent of respondents stated that it is important for them to use local businesses in west Norfolk. Of those, 60 per cent said it was extremely important.

However, whilst there is an appetite for using independent businesses, online shopping is becoming increasingly important for consumers in the area. 95 per cent of those taking part in the consultation stated that they do

some form of shopping online – and overall, almost 20 per cent of people said they intend to do more online shopping in future.

The survey also revealed that around half of the participants intend to eat or drink out in the next three months, and people felt that protective measures in line with government guidelines would make it easier to return to pubs and restaurants.

The study also found that there has been a marked decrease in west Norfolk consumers shopping for pleasure with 54 per cent stating they are doing less non-essential shopping. But, over half - 55 per cent - stated that they were confident about returning to the shops as lockdown eases.

Councillor Graham Middleton, Cabinet Member for Business Development said: "We know that the last few months have been difficult for everyone and through this consultation, we wanted to understand how consumers feel about accessing services as lockdown eases.

"It is really encouraging to learn that so many people are keen to use local businesses here in west Norfolk, and consumer support is so important, now more than ever. We will shortly be launching a campaign which will showcase the many great local businesses in west Norfolk so this feedback is pertinent and timely.

"We have already implemented a number of measures to make it easier for consumers to use businesses in west Norfolk. This feedback will help us to shape our support further so that people feel confident and safe to access the many brilliant local shops and services we have here."

As well as the consumer survey, the consultation also sought feedback from businesses across the district with 114 giving their views.

The Invest West Norfolk business survey revealed that there has been a clear impact from Covid-19 with 88 per cent of respondents stating that the coronavirus has impacted on their business over the last three months. Of those, 63 per cent declared that the impact has been significant.

There is a great deal of uncertainty amongst businesses in the future, including around employing staff and long-term confidence. Businesses feel that attracting and retaining customers and financial concerns are the biggest challenges they face in the next 3-6 months.

And, the areas where businesses feel they need help most is around financial support and marketing to bring in footfall and custom. In particular, a number of businesses said that they need training and assistance to adapt their services online in the next six months.

The business survey also revealed low levels of apprenticeship take-up. Businesses are being incentivised to take on apprentices – more information can be found here: <a href="https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/education-and-learning/adult-learning/apprenticeships/employers">https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/education-and-learning/adult-learning/apprenticeships/employers</a>

In spite of the difficult circumstances, 39 per cent of businesses participating said that they are confident for their prospects in the next 6-12 months.

Councillor Graham Middleton commented: "The feedback from businesses underlines what we already knew – Covid-19 has had an impact on so many companies and organisations in west Norfolk.

"I have been so impressed by the efforts of local businesses who have worked hard to adapt and develop over the last few months, bringing in Covid-19 safety measures to continue to operate.

"We understand their concerns and we are keen to support, where we can. I am pleased to confirm that we have recently launched two new grants schemes to help tourism, leisure, cultural and hospitality businesses to extend their season.

"The insight from this consultation will help us as we develop our actions and investment as part of our recovery and renewal from Covid-19."

The consultation also asked respondents – including parish councils – to prioritise interventions that they would like to see with hand sanitiser stations in high streets/neighbourhood shopping areas and Covid safe posters and signage emerging as the top priorities. The hand sanitiser stations are set to be installed shortly.

The feedback will be used to guide the development of west Norfolk's 'Reopening the High Street plan' after the borough council received European Union Funding to support the safe reopening of the high street. It will also help to inform how tourism funding is invested in the area. And, the council is working on a public realm strategy which will bring improvements to the appearance of streets and buildings.

The findings come as the borough council announces new funding for tourism, leisure, cultural and hospitality businesses in west Norfolk which will help them to trade safely and extend their normal operating season. There are two schemes available, the tourism adaptation business fund and the autumn and winter adaptation business fund. Each have a £45K funding pot and eligible businesses can apply for a maximum of £3k from each fund.

Further to this and other recent consultation, King's Lynn town centre businesses are being invited to take part in a virtual business workshop from 5.30pm – 7pm on Wednesday, 9 September. Businesses will be asked to share their ideas on topics such as making use of empty units, and enhancing the town centre offer.

The feedback will help to shape the Town Investment Plan and any King's Lynn town centre businesses wanting to join the workshop can register their interest via <a href="mailto:michelle@engaging-people.co.uk">michelle@engaging-people.co.uk</a>

| Meetings Attended and Meetings Scheduled  BID   |  |
|---|--|
| R&D Panel Portfolio session with exec Director  |  |
| Cabinet Portfolio session with various officers |  |
| Fortiono session with various officers          |  |
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## September 2020

# COUNCILLOR PAUL KUNES - CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMERCIAL SERVICES

For the period 9<sup>th</sup> July 2020 to 10<sup>th</sup> September 2020

## 1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

#### **Cremations and Burials**

I am very pleased to report that numbers have returned to "normal" levels during August.

## **Gayton Road Cemetery.**

Still awaiting reply from Environment Agency to allow a more definitive operating practice going forward to be agreed. In the meantime, we continue to deal with burial requests on a case-by-case basis. Feasibility studies are being carried out on other options for Cemetery provision in the King's Lynn area.

**Car Parking Income.** Again, pleased to report car parking figures continue to improve in King's Lynn. Figures for the resort car parks are actually slightly ahead of last years figures.

### 2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

#### **Parking**

Work is soon to commence on the re-surfacing on the Football Club car park, which will then become Pay-and display (except match days).

## 3 Meetings Attended and Meetings Scheduled

#### Cabinet

Portfolio briefing -Car parks-Crematorium and Cemeteries, IT and Licensing Corporate performance panel

R&D Panel

**E&C Panel** 

| IDB All of the above meetings held on line using either Zoom, Teams, Webex or Skype. |  |  |  |  |  |
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# 10<sup>th</sup> September 2020

### COUNCILLOR RICHARD BLUNT - CABINET MEMBER FOR DEVELOPMENT

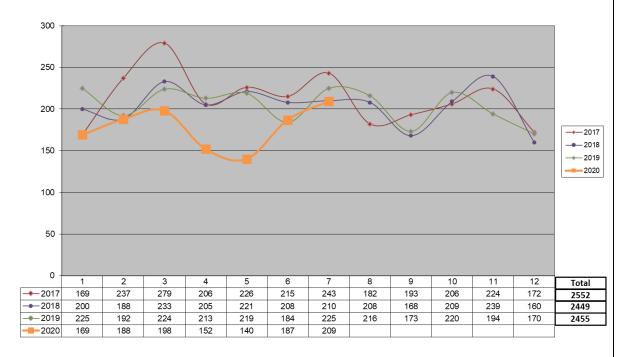
For the period from 27 June 2020 to 28 August 2020

## 1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

## Planning Department

Planning applications have recovered quickly, June / July 2020 figures almost mirror June / July 2019 figures.

#### Planning and discharge of condition applications received



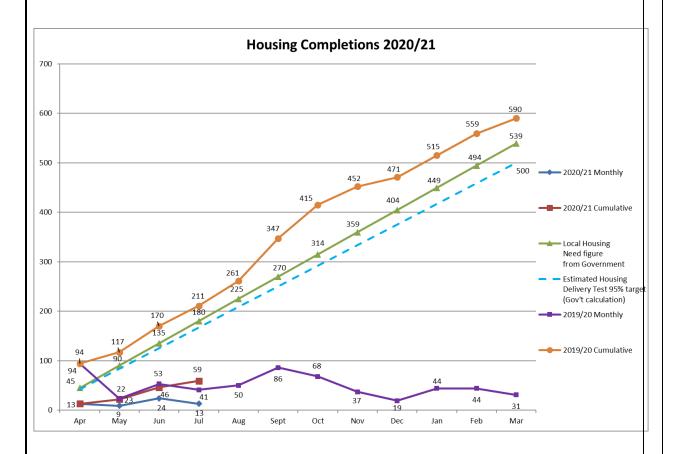
#### Revenue income

Income for 2020/21

|       | April    | May      | June     | July    | Total    | Projected | Variance    |
|-------|----------|----------|----------|---------|----------|-----------|-------------|
|       | 2020     | 2020     | 2020     | 2020    |          | Apr - Jul | April – Jul |
| Total | £112,816 | £128,849 | £134,168 | £89,509 | £465,342 | £387,883  | +£77,459    |

## **Housing Completions**

Despite construction sites actively building again there continues to be a drop in completions in comparison to the same time last year. 59 completions between April and July compared to 211 for the same period in 2019. At the time of submitting my report there were 8 completions in August. We continue to wait to see if the Government will announce if the Local Housing Need figure will be reduced to reflect the impacts of Covid-19.



## Appeal Performance – decisions made by The Planning Inspectorate 1/1/20 – 31/7/20

|                     | Dismissed | Allowed |
|---------------------|-----------|---------|
| Planning appeals    | 18        | 5       |
|                     | 78%       | 22%     |
| Enforcement appeals | 3         | 0       |
|                     | 100%      | 0%      |

The national average for planning appeals allowed is around 34%.

#### Planning Reforms 2020

#### 1. 'Planning for the Future' White Paper

## Proposals in the White Paper

## 1. Streamline the planning process

- Land to be identified under 3 categories Growth, Renewal and Protection (areas and sites within the new Local Plan would be annotated and colourcoded in line with their Growth, Renewal or Protected designation, with explanatory descriptions set out in the key and accompanying text, as appropriate to the category.)
- Areas identified as Growth areas (suitable for substantial development) would automatically be granted outline planning permission for the principle of development, while automatic approvals would also be available for preestablished development types in other areas suitable for building.
- Local Plans to contain rules rather than general policies
- Standard templates for Local Plans
- Replacing existing tests of soundness
- 30 months to write a Local Plan (simplified 5 stage process)
- Greater use of data and digital technology

#### 2. Digital-first approach

- More digital engagement for Local Plans and decision-making
- Use of software for planning applications
- New PropTech Innovation Council

#### 3. Focus on design and sustainability

- New climate change mitigation, energy efficiency standards
- Quicker assessment of environmental impact abolishing the Sustainability Appraisal system, developing a simplified process
- Greater focus on 'placemaking' and 'the creation of beautiful places'
- Automatically permit proposals for high-quality developments where they reflect local character and preferences
- Design guidance and codes rules for the design of new development to be produced for a whole local authority area, or for a smaller area or site
- This Autumn the government will publish a 'National Model Design Code' to supplement the National Design Guide. Will complement a revised and

consolidated Manual for Streets

- Establish a new body to support the delivery of design codes
- o Revive 'pattern books' approach, for local areas
- Local Planning Authorities to have a chief officer for design and place-making

## 4. Infrastructure delivery

- New 'Infrastructure Levy' to replace S.106 and Community Infrastructure Levy

   based on a flat-rate, valued-based charge, set nationally, at either a single
   rate, or at area-specific rates. Exemption for self and custom-build
   development to continue
- Under the Infrastructure Levy, authorities would be able to use funds raised through the levy to secure affordable housing
- Remove exemptions for the new Levy

#### 5. More land

- New nationally determined, binding housing requirement that local planning authorities have to deliver
- Propose to maintain the Housing Delivery Test and the presumption in favour of sustainable development as part of the new system
- Speed up construction by encouraging more phases of development to come forward together
- Encouraging competition amongst developers
- Location of new public building to support renewal and regeneration of town centres

### National Planning Policy Framework - to be amended

### **Neighbourhood Plans**

- To be retained
- Content should become more focused to reflect new Local Plan proposals
- Greater use of digital tools and data (new digital co-creation platforms and 3D visualisation technologies to explore proposals within the local context)
- Spread use of NPs in towns and cities
- Scope to extend and adapt the concept for very small areas, such as individual streets
- Role in producing design guides/codes

Neighbourhood share of the new Infrastructure Levy to be kept

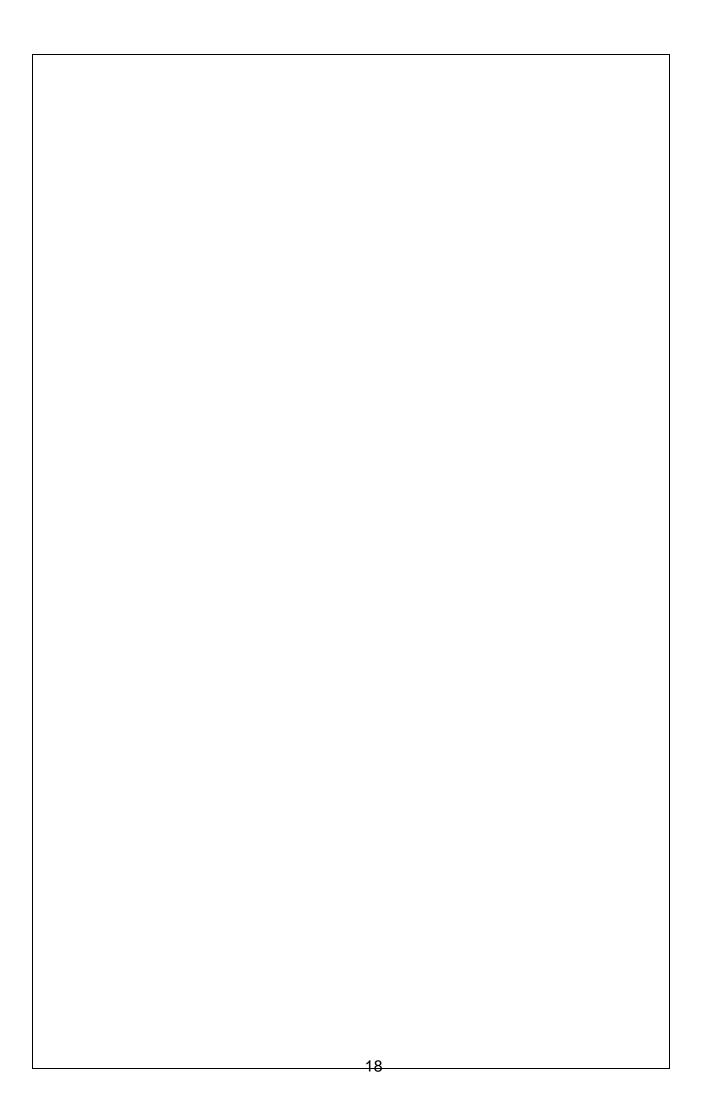
#### 2. Reforms to current system

The Government also published a consultation setting out proposals to improve the effectiveness of the current planning system. These cover:

- The standard method for assessing housing for local plans: Proposals to revise the standard method to increase the overall number of homes being planned for and achieve a more appropriate distribution.
- **Delivering First Homes**: Following a consultation on the First Homes proposals in February 2020, we have published the Government's response 2 and are now consulting on the detail of the planning proposals. This includes setting a requirement that 25% of all affordable housing secured through developer contributions should be First Homes. We are consulting on options for the remaining 75% of affordable housing secured through developer contributions, and seeking views on transitional arrangements, level of discount, interaction with the Community Infrastructure Levy and how we propose First Homes would be delivered through exception sites.
- **S106 and small sites**: Proposals to temporarily raise the threshold below which developers do not need to contribute to affordable housing, to up to 40 or 50 units for an 18-month period. In designated rural areas, the consultation proposes to maintain the current threshold. It also seeks views on whether there are any other barriers for SMEs to access and progress sites.
- **Permission in Principle:** Proposals to increase the threshold for Permission in Principle by application, to cover sites suitable for major housing-led development, rather than being restricted to just minor housing development.

**Meetings Attended** (via Teams Zoom and Youtube)

Portfolio Meetings,
Planning Committee
Planning Committee Sifting
Planning Committee Training
Disability Training Event
Local Plan Task Group
Cabinet
Cabinet Sifting
Corporate Performance Panel
Various Meetings with Officers
Regeneration and Development Panel



## 6 September 2018

#### COUNCILLOR ADRIAN LAWRENCE - CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING

For the period 19 July to 1 September 2020

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

#### **Home Choice**

There were 986 live applications for July 149 High band 304 Medium band 529 Low band 4 Emergency

There were 126 new/ change of circumstances applications

18 properties were let

### **Next Steps Accommodation Programme**

The Council submitted a funding application on 20<sup>th</sup> August for funding to support efforts to accommodate people who had been accommodated during the 'Get Everyone in' the government led drive at the start of the Pandemic to get people of the streets. Two proposals have been made- the first involves the leasing of a block of ten flats in the town by partner housing association Broadland Housing who will manage the accommodation for people leaving emergency accommodation or supported housing. There will be dedicated support for those accommodated, with accommodation provided for the medium term until more permanent accommodation can be secured. This proposal will help release the emergency and supported housing for those in crisis now including those who may otherwise be rough sleeping. The second proposal is an initiative for people who have higher support needs and may have had a pattern of rough sleeping over a number of years. Under a model called 'Housing First' it is planned that a number of units of accommodation (up to six) will be acquired in the next six months with a high level of support provided for a medium/ long term. 'Housing First is an internationally recognised based model of housing and support for those with

chronic housing, health and social care needs. Housing First has been shown to be effective in supporting people with histories of street homelessness, or other types of homelessness where contact with services has been unsuccessful in breaking the cycle of instability'. This will focus on the most complex/entrenched rough sleepers and will provide valuable resource in terms of intensive support, ending their rough sleeping and sustaining accommodation.

Announcements on the bids are expected in late September.

#### No Homelessness in Norfolk

A new partnership is being formed to deal with housing related support. The Pandemic saw the 'Everyone in' effort and huge effort in accommodating the homeless. It is imperative that efforts are maximised to ensure that those people with high support needs get the help they need to maintain accommodation. There is a genuine danger that without appropriate support the progress made could unravel, with people losing accommodation and returning to the street. The new partnership aims to pool resources to seek funding and seek and secure funding from other parts of the public sector including central government. The new partnership will recognise that accommodation and support arrangements are delivered locally, but that working together on funding and commissioning of housing related support can bring significant benefits.

### The Winter Night shelter

Although the operating arrangements have not been finalised the Winter Night shelter plan to open from a new venue at St John's Vicarage. It is likely that because of social distancing requirements it will have a significantly reduced capacity, however, the charity is determined to ensure it can provide a safe bed for the night for those in desperate need who have no other options. We are currently awaiting further guidance from Government regarding the safe opening of night shelters.

## **Reid Way**

Broadland Housing Association has submitted a planning application for 7 self-contained, single storey modular units on Council owned land at Reid Way. The units will be used primarily as temporary accommodation for families. Subject to receiving planning consent the units could be completed as soon as March 2021. This project aligns with the objectives set out in the Councils Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Strategy 2019-2024.

Given the increase in homelessness due to the economic and social impacts of Covid 19 along with potential further increases with the lifting of the moratorium on evictions, the project has been accelerated to provide much needed family accommodation.

The Planning application can be viewed on the planning portal using ref 20/01274/F.

### Moratorium on evictions

In March Government announced a suspension of social and private rent evictions until August. This has recently been extended until 20<sup>th</sup> September 2020. At the end of this period Landlords and tenants are expected to work together to come up with affordable repayment plans for anyone with rent arrears. This is an area that we continue to monitor closely as there is potential for significant increased homelessness with the social and economic impact of Covid-19.

## **Meetings Attended**

Full council
Cabinet
Cabinet Siftings
Meetings and Conversations with Officers
Portfolio Meetings

## 10<sup>th</sup> September 2020

# COUNCILLOR PETER GIDNEY CABINET MEMBER FOR PROJECT DELIVERY

For the period 1 July to 1 September 2020

## 1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

#### KINGS LYNN - NAR OUSE REGENERATION AREA AND ENTERPRISE ZONE

#### 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk, with its partners, has been progressing the Nar Ouse Regeneration Area (NORA) over a number of years, and more recently that part of the NORA that has been granted Enterprise Zone (NOEZ) status.
- 1.2 To date the wider NORA scheme has successfully delivered:
  - Primary road infrastructure
  - Residential units
  - A hotel
  - A pub restaurant
  - The King's Lynn Innovation Centre (managed office space)
  - A public park
- 1.3 The overall NORA site has, and continues to, contribute to the successful growth and strengthening of the King's Lynn and West Norfolk local economy.

## 2.0 Enterprise Zone

- 2.1 Following part of the NORA site being designated as having Enterprise Zone status, the Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk has:
  - Completed its land assembly programme to bring together all the development land into one (the council's) ownership so that it can better deliver the overall Enterprise Zone scheme.

- Secured detailed planning permission for the development of the NOEZ to provide a mix of business premises that includes offices and light industrial uses. The detailed planning permission covers approximately 11.5 Ha (28 Ac) and provides for 35,923m² (386,685ft²) of commercial space to be constructed.
- Setting up a framework contract with four contractors for the construction of the commercial premises on the NOEZ, that the council can use and other interested parties.
- The Borough Council, working with the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership, has commenced the delivery of some of the commercial space on a speculative basis (see below). The Council will be constructing during 2020/2021:
  - Two office buildings extending to approximately 745 m<sup>2</sup> (8,000ft<sup>2</sup>)
  - Six light industrial units (with office content) extending to approximately 5,520 m² (60,000ft²)
  - All of the necessary secondary road (and utility) infrastructure to potentially open up and service the whole of the NOEZ site.
- The Borough Council and NALEP, in seeking the successful delivery and growth of the NOEZ, have completed a Funding Agreement package amounting to £5,375,000 to facilitate the development of the speculative units mentioned above. The Council is match-funding this amount.
- The Council has also managed to attract private sector developer interest with two expanding local companies interested in acquiring sites to develop premises for their own occupation. The companies have been attracted to the NOEZ by the Business Rates benefits that exist at present.

### 3.0 Extension of Enterprise Zone Benefits and Reallocations

- 3.1 For the Nar Ouse Regeneration Area Enterprise Zone the extension of the current benefits is critical to its future success. The Borough Council and the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership have committed to constructing commercial premises speculatively, and the Council is already in active discussions with a potential occupier of the first office building to be constructed.
- 3.2 Similarly to the above, the two local businesses seeking to expand, and construct premises for themselves, have both stated that the Business Rates benefits that exist at present is a factor that has contributed to their committing to their new-build proposals on the NOEZ.

3.3 The estimated benefits arising from extending the NOEZ Enterprise Zone are as follow:

**Employment - Business Occupiers** 

Three Employers Current jobs protected 80; new jobs 26

Commercial Floorspace (delivered by Council and NALEP)

Offices  $745 \text{ m}^2 (8,000 \text{ft}^2)$ 

Light industrial  $5,520 \text{ m}^2 (60,000 \text{ft}^2)$ 

Commercial Floorspace (delivered by private sector)

Light industrial  $5,520 \text{ m}^2 (60,000 \text{ft}^2)$ 

Land made available for development

Commercial development land 11.5 Ha (28 Ac)

**Construction Employment** 

The Council has commissioned, or will be commissioning, construction related work as follows:

Secondary road infrastructure £ 4,500,000 (est)

Speculative commercial unit build £10,750,000 (est)

The private sector will be commissioning, construction related work as follows:

Commercial unit build £ 3,000,000 (est)

- 3.4 The above will help retain a significant number of construction-related jobs, together with those associated with the construction works supply chain.
- 3.5 The Council is working with companies such as Tarmac and RG Carter (construction) in the delivery of the NOEZ. In addition, professional firms of consultants have been appointed, and will be appointed, in the following disciplines/work areas:
  - Architecture
  - Quantity surveying
  - Utilities
  - Earth works
  - Landscaping

#### 4.0 Conclusion

- 4.1 The Council and the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership, with other partners historically, have worked hard to deliver the outputs and outcomes anticipated from the Enterprise Zone in King's Lynn. The NOEZ is on a tipping point to be extremely successful, and an extension of the Enterprise Zone benefits will crystalize this success.
- 4.2 The King's Lynn and West Norfolk local economy has been hit hard, as with many other areas of the country, by Covid-19. The Borough Council, and indeed the Chair of the Town Deal Board (the Board includes our local MP, James Wild), see the Nar Ouse Enterprise Zone as one of the key drivers for growth and recovery for the area. Investing in key infrastructure to open-up sites for development, and by constructing business premises, will show significant confidence in King's Lynn and the wider West Norfolk area, and will help to encourage the private sector to invest in the area too.
- 4.3 The NOEZ has long been considered a key site for strategic growth, and there have already been successful outputs from the wider regeneration area in the delivery of housing and commercial premises. Further support and investment in the Enterprise Zone will accelerate these outputs and provide a significant positive impact on the local economy for years to come.

#### **PONTOONS**

Progress site visits with the project team have been set up and will continue to monitor the work through to completion.

Works are progressing well at the pontoon, despite the bad weather and some strong winds. All three piles are now in place (putting us ahead of programme). The most disruptive element of the project is therefore completed. The floats have arrived from Portugal and their installation will begin soon.

Taking delivery of, and unloading, materials that had come straight from Portugal added some challenges to the project. (Haulage is exempt from the 14-day isolation.) Drake Towage set up welfare facilities for only the Driver to use and put in place specific Risk Assessments / Method Statement (RAMS) to deal with this occurrence.

The Marine Mammal Officer, has been on site every day to ensure that no wild life is harmed; at least two seal was seen so works were paused for around 40 mins each time.

The works have generated a lot of interest from locals and tourists alike, Drake Towage's Site Manager has been on hand to explain how they are working to members of the public as well as liaising with Marriott's and other properties. Drakes also provided disposable ear defenders so that anyone who wanted to watch could take some, that said the volume was not at a level in which defenders theoretically

would have been needed on the quayside.

No complaints regarding the noise or disruption to date.

A Health and Safety Inspection took place on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> to discuss the Risk Assessments / Method Statement, RAMS, and how the project would be completed safely with the site manager.

All satisfactory up to the end of August a few challenges and works are progressing well.

There have been some enthusiastic suggestions regarding possible facilities for users of the pontoons. These are being considered and hopefully will come before R and D in the near future

## HAZ PROJECT CHAPEL STREET

Over the last few months owing to Covid precautions and officers concentrating on front-line issues in other areas. However, a revised design has been considered by officers and R and D, this needs further work.

At the next meeting the current position will be reviewed with a view to create a timetable.

#### **PARKWAY**

This application has been in for approval over the last three months a slight delay owing to Covid 19 but all on track otherwise. There have been some concerns regarding transport and environmental issues. As regards these items, so far, the mitigation and improvement has demonstrated improvement as regards transport, and as regards environmental mitigation the standard is proportionally greater than any other project I have seen.

#### **DEWSIDE**

This project has finished. all the homes have been sold. A proportion to the Council for rent and depending on the future needs the tenure can be reconsidered.

## 2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

3 portfolio meetings to be confirmed

Haz Meeting to be confirmed

### 3 Meetings Attended and Meetings Scheduled

All meetings scheduled attended apart from one

## 10th September 2020

# COUNCILLOR MRS EA NOCKOLDS CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURE, HERITAGE AND HEALTH

For the period July to September 3rd 2020

## 1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Our Tourism Manager continues to promote our area as well as giving support to our Tourism industry. The Visit Britain's 'We're Good To Go' scheme is regularly highlighted, as it's a new UK wide tourism industry standard mark, which reassures customers that that they are adhering to Government and Public Health guidance. The visitwestnorfolk web-site has increased the users from 10,000 in 2019 to 60,000 this year. A new page has been placed on the web-site specifically to attract more possible production interest from the film industry creatives. The page has a new drone/landscape footage of KL town streets and architecture, with coastal areas and rural Downham Market to be added in the future. Together with a member of our Comms team and our Tourism Manager are members of the Norfolk County Councils Film Assets project steering group. One of their aims is to target the international film industry and showcase what Norfolk can offer.

We are members of Visit Norfolk and the Visit East of England Board at which our Tourism Manager attends weekly meetings of the Marketing Group. The Government has awarded E of E Board a grant for a campaign named 'Unexplored England/Summer Safely' campaign. This grant will cover the costs of the entire campaign including a late summer season extension for the month of September. This campaign is to reinforce our region as a safe space with wide-open landscapes that can be enjoyed and explored in late Summer as in traditionally peak times. The Visit Norfolk website has had an increase in users of an extra 100,000 this July and almost 2million views. Travellers are being encouraged to 'Know Before You Go', to ensure places are open and many are asking customers to pre-book before arrival.

Our District Discharge staff have had 129 referrals from the QEH since April. Many of the patients are in need of adaptations for access, bathing or stair lifts and some for Careline or key safes requests. Our staff have not returned to the QEH until a H&S assessment has been written and signed off. In the meantime referrals are not hindered as the therapists at the QEH are helping to facilitate virtual assessments or by phone contact. The aim is for staff working from the QEH late September/ October.

Until recently the LILY team have been able to utilise staff from other departments of the Council. They have all helped with calls out to residents

and Lily advisors. The LILY team are working towards closing client cases who are able to get back to normality, in preparation for a further spike and also an increase in demand due to poor mental health, closure of voluntary groups, bereavement or unemployment. LILY advisors are experienced in a wide remit of support and are prepared to be working as part of the vulnerability hub to work alongside the Council within the Local Outbreak Control plan preventing and managing outbreaks in high risk locations, workplaces and communities.

## 2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

Lynn Museum will not be opening until later in the year, once the risk assessments and safe systems of work are completed. The staff have been working behind the scenes to bring the fascinating history of west Norfolk to our residents by producing watch-along events via their twitter account. The last one held was to celebrate Festival of British Archaeology which centred around the Time Team 1999 episode at Bawsey church ruins. Regularly the Museum place on Twitter photographs of objects and or paintings from the collections with an inscription describing the item. On the 19th September a Virtual Tour of the museum will be given.

The newly appointed A/WN Community Development Manager is encouraging our residents to take part in the National Fitness day, 23rd September. It is suitable for everyone to join in the Alive Active Mile. It can be completed through any form of physical activity, walking, swimming etc.

The Stories of Lynn has been opened since July 4th with holiday activity events for children. Over 120 children attended enjoying making a museum in a jar, making and decorating kites and continuing with one of the activities which was on the S of L web-site for commemorating VJ Day. The activity involved using origami to make a crane bird which is an important symbol of piece in Japan. The cranes will eventually be joined with those made at Thetford museum and sent to Japan to celebrate new friendships Norfolk and Japan.

## 3 Meetings Attended and Meetings Scheduled

Meetings attended via Microsoft TEAMS; Lorraine Gore Chief Executive Duncan Hall Assistant Director Martin Chisholm Assistant Director VJ Day working group Phillip Eke Tourism Manager Alive WN Joint Norfolk Museums Committee Towns Fund Board Hunstanton Town Council Liaison Forum via ZOOM; British Crafts & Conservation Foundation Cabinet
Visit Norfolk Board
KL Festival Board
CPP Panel
R&D Panel
Meetings;
Deputy Chief Exe of QE Hospital Trust
A/WN Community Development Manager

## 10<sup>th</sup> September 2020

# COUNCILLOR BRIAN LONG - LEADER & CABINET MEMBER FOR RESOURCES

For the period 9<sup>th</sup> July to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020

## 1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

#### **Environment:**

I attended my first meeting of the Liaison board for our Contract with SERCO. Topics for discussion included role out of new fleet and service provision of food collections should social distancing regulations continue going forward. Due to lead in times for vehicles and options regarding collection of food waste I have determined to work with Serco and our Officers to deliver the best in terms of operation and the environment going forward. I have discounted continued non collection of food waste, as we know the benefits of this being collected separately and treated rather than forming part of the residual waste stream. I will update further as soon these negotiations have concluded.

### Personnel:

Those staff moved from the CIC and other departments to the expanded community hub (working under LILY) are now moving back to their normal roles as the response phase to the Covid -19 Pandemic is stepped down and things settle to the new normal. Work has commenced on re-opening of King's Court to the public, including screens around reception. Initially all face to face meetings will be booked appointments only and obviously will have to represent best practice in terms of social distancing and protection.

As we consider more people coming back to work at King's Court thought has been made of the potential for airborne transmission of the virus and so ventilation (in terms of windows being open) has to be maintained.

## **Annual Canvas:**

The annual canvas of electors is currently underway, each home in West Norfolk will receive an initial enquiry form, only if there are changes is any further action needed by the householder. This process is a precursor to creation of the update to electoral roles.

#### Finance:

Towards the end of July Government announced the third tranche of funding for local government. The allocation to West Norfolk of £294025.00 is as set

out on the table below. This does not include for the help with loss of earnings from "commercial" activity but is nevertheless a helpful addition.

| Local Authority                 | First<br>Tranche of<br>Covid-19<br>Funding | Second<br>Tranche of<br>Covid-19<br>Funding | Third<br>Tranche of<br>Covid-19<br>Funding <sup>2</sup> | Total Covid-<br>19<br>Additional<br>Funding |
|---------------------------------|--|---|---|---|
| Breckland                       | £69,732                                    | £1,403,082                                  | £232,935  | £1,705,749                                  |
| Broadland                       | £50,643                                    | £1,300,935                                  | £173,740  | £1,525,318                                  |
| Great Yarmouth                  | £67,641                                    | £988,971                                    | £237,669  | £1,294,281                                  |
| King's Lynn And West<br>Norfolk | £96,710                                    | £1,508,122                                  | £294,025  | £1,898,857                                  |
| Norfolk                         | £26,931,660                                | £16,741,850                                 | £6,000,873  | £49,674,383                                 |
| North Norfolk                   | £56,802                                    | £1,045,316                                  | £185,060  | £1,287,178                                  |
| Norwich                         | £105,434                                   | £1,410,773                                  | £301,970  | £1,818,177                                  |
| South Norfolk                   | £54,974                                    | £1,409,952                                  | £201,003  | £1,665,929                                  |
| TOTAL                           | £27,433,596                                | £25,809,001                                 | £7,627,275  | £60,869,872                                 |

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

Devolution and Recovery White Paper:

In preparation of the forthcoming (at the time of writing) White Paper, I have had numerous meetings with Other District/Borough/City/County Leaders.

The consensus is to wait to see detail contained within said white paper, however I have supported a letter expressing interest in working with Government pending sight of the details. Devolution of powers from Government, potential for reorganisation and recovery of the sector following the Covid Pandemic are all critical to maintain our local services. We have demonstrated an ability to deliver in a crisis, Central Government must now start to trust us locally to deliver on the recovery and growth agenda.

### 3 Meetings Attended and Meetings Scheduled

In addition to my usual round of portfolio and cabinet meetings I have also attended the following:

Kings Lynn Internal Drainage Board

Various meetings with Norfolk Council Leaders.

Freebridge Board Meetings
Anglian Great Ouse Regional Flood and Coastal Committee
Audit Committee
MHCLG Ministerial Briefing
Tour of works at Corn Exchange inc Cinema
Alive West Norfolk Board of Directors
Norfolk Covid 19 Engagement Board
Licensing Sub Committee Hearing
Towns Fund Board
Joint Waste Contract Liaison.
Raising of flag for Pride 2020