

Borough Council of
**King's Lynn &
West Norfolk**



COUNCIL MEETING

Agenda

Thursday, 14th July, 2022
at 4.30 pm

in the Assembly Room
Town Hall
Saturday Market Place
King's Lynn

Available for the public to view on [WestNorfolkBC on You Tube](#)



King's Court, Chapel Street, King's Lynn, Norfolk, PE30 1EX
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6 July 2022

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 **4.30 pm** on **Thursday, 14th July, 2022** in the Assembly Room, Town Hall, Saturday Market Place, King's Lynn 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 Meetings of the Council held on 25 April and 12 May 2022 (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. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COUNCIL BODIES

(Members are reminded this is a debate, not a question and answer session)

To consider the following recommendations to Council:

1) **Cabinet: 21 June 2022** (Page 7)

CAB17: Planning Scheme of Delegation

9. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES AND INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD VACANCY (Pages 8 - 12)

10. NOTICES OF MOTION

- i) To consider the following Notice of Motion (4/22), submitted by Councillor S Squire:

“Debate Not Hate”

This council believes that elected members should be able to undertake their roles safely without abuse, threats or intimidation. Therefore it agrees to sign as a council, the LGA “Debate Not Hate” public statement calling on local and national government with other relevant partners to form a government convened working group to produce and implement an action plan that addresses abuse and intimidation of members and candidates across all levels of national and local government.

- ii) To consider the following Notice of Motion (5/22), submitted by Councillor S Squire:

“Introduction of a Tourism Levy”

This council acknowledges the valuable contribution that tourism makes to our local business economy. However, it also notes that tourism and high visitor numbers affect the level of council services that are required and used by both residents and visitors alike.

With the current financial climate and councils having to find new sources of funding, it is noted that the LGA estimate that a small flat rate tourist levy (tax) introduced by councils could increase council revenues by up to £7 million a year.

This council therefore agrees to join other councils in writing to the government, calling for the government to introduce primary legislation to

enable us to levy a tourism tax and for a working group to be set up to investigate the possibility for the introduction of a voluntary levy in the mean time.

- iii) To consider the following Notice of Motion (6/22), submitted by Councillor S Squire:

“Provision of overnight parking for suitably equipped camper vans”

With the National increase in holidaying at home and in particular campervan and motorhome use, together with frequent reports of campervans parking overnight in inappropriate car parks around the borough, particularly in coastal areas.

This council considers it is time to join other councils including those in Wales, Scotland and Northumberland to allow charged, overnight parking to self sufficient vehicles for a maximum 24 hour period as a transient type stopover in a selected council run car park in Hunstanton. This would be run for a trial period of one year so that council could then assess the success of the scheme.

- iv) To consider the following Notice of Motion (7/22), submitted by Councillor S Squire

“Menopause Workplace Pledge”

It is estimated there are some 13 million women in the UK that are currently peri or menopausal. Menopausal women are the fastest growing demographic in the workforce and almost 8 out of 10 menopausal women are in work.

This council is aware that over 50% of our workforce and 25% of our councillors are women. It recognises that peri-menopause and menopause and the wide ranging symptoms involved can be a difficult time for women, can lead to a loss of confidence which may then lead to women leaving the workforce.

This council would like to demonstrate they are fully supportive of both staff and councillors experiencing menopause and wish to be a Menopause Friendly Employer. Therefore, we agree to sign the Menopause Workplace Pledge, nominate a dedicated Menopause Champion amongst the staff and to arrange regular support and advice sessions that can be accessed by both staff and councillors.

11. CABINET MEMBERS REPORTS (Pages 13 - 37)

In accordance with Standing Order 11, to receive reports from Cabinet Members moved en bloc, under Standing Order 11.2 Members of the Council may ask questions of Cabinet Members on their reports and Portfolio areas.

The order of putting questions shall commence with a Member from the largest opposition group, proceeding in descending order to the smallest opposition group, followed by a non-aligned Member and finally a Member from the ruling group. This order shall repeat until the time for questions has elapsed or there are no more questions to be put.

The period of time for putting questions and receiving responses shall not exceed 50 minutes for all Cabinet Members, excluding the Leader

The period of time for putting questions and receiving responses to the Leader shall not exceed 15 minutes.

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

Corporate Services - Councillor B Long

Environment - Councillor P Kunes

Development - Councillor R Blunt

Finance – Councillor A Dickinson

Property – Councillor A Lawrence

People and Communities – Councillor Sam Sandell

Deputy Leader and Business, Culture & Heritage – Councillor G Middleton

Leader - Councillor Stuart Dark – report to follow

12. 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).

Lorraine Gore
Chief Executive

**RECOMMENDATION FROM CABINET ON 21 JUNE 2022
TO COUNCIL ON 14 JULY 2022**

CAB17 **PLANNING SCHEME OF DELEGATION**

Cabinet considered a report which proposed amendments to the current planning scheme of delegation. The scheme of delegation included the councillor call-in and sifting panel process. It was proposed to amend the scheme of delegation so councillors could have extra time to call-in an application to committee, and parish councils could also have their comments considered by sifting panel, in relation to re-consultation of amended/revised development proposals.

Other changes were also proposed, to bring the scheme more up to date, to clarify particular issues and to bring it into line with other policy/guidance.

The sifting panel was proposed to remain, as a key part of the process.

Under standing order 34 Councillor Moriarty presented the Corporate Performance Panels recommendation in support of the report. Councillor Moriarty also requested that the sifting panel's agenda be published in advance of the meeting.

In debating the content of the report Cabinet made reference to the fact that the sifting panel assisted in ensuring that large numbers of items didn't have to go the full committee when there was not sufficient reasoning for them to do so.

With regard to points raised at the Panel regarding Members' and officers' applications, clarification was given that existing councillors and officers applications were put to the full Committee, former councillors and those working in the industry were not, but they were monitored through such things as the audit route. Further training for parish councils was also suggested to ensure that changes to legislation etc was imparted to them. It was confirmed that this was planned.

The points raised regarding transparency were noted.

RECOMMENDED: 1) That the scheme of delegation be amended as set out in the report, and as attached to the report.

2) That the operation of the scheme be reviewed in summer 2023, to assess the impact of the changes.

Reason for Decision

To ensure the scheme of delegation provides that balance between taking planning decisions under officer delegated powers and taking decisions at planning committee, and that it allows for an efficient and effective service for all customers

REPORT TO COUNCIL

Lead Member: Councillor S Dark E-mail: cllr.stuart.dark@west-norfolk.gov.uk		Other Cabinet Members consulted:		
Lead Officer: Samantha Winter E-mail: sam.winter@west-norfolk.gov.uk Direct Dial:01553 616327		Other Members consulted: E&C Panel and CPP Panel		
Other Officers consulted:				
Financial Implications NO	Policy/Personnel Implications NO	Statutory Implications (incl S.17) NO	Equalities Impact Assessment NO	Risk Management Implications NO

Date of Meeting: 14th July 2022

APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES AND PARTNERSHIPS AND INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD VACANCY

Purpose of Report

The report seeks the appointment of representatives to serve on outside bodies and partnerships, which fall within the General, Parished and Unparished categories. Nominations for representatives to serve on outside bodies and partnerships which fall within the Scrutiny and Regulatory categories have been made by the Environment and Community Panel and Corporate Performance Panel are also submitted for approval by Council as set out in point 4.1 of the report.

Recommendations

- 1) That the Council appoints representatives to serve on the outside bodies and partnerships listed in the Parish level and General categories as shown at Appendix 1.
- 2) That Council approves the appointment of representatives nominated by the Panels to serve on outside bodies and partnerships which fall within the Scrutiny and Regulatory categories as shown in point 4.1 of the report and Council nominates members to serve on the scrutiny outside bodies if no nominations were made by the Panels.
- 3) That the reporting arrangements be noted, as shown in section 3 of the report.
- 4) That Council appoint a representative to serve on the King’s Lynn Internal Drainage Board following a resignation from one of the Council representatives.

Reason for decision

To ensure continued involvement in the community by the Council

1.0 BACKGROUND

1.1 The Cabinet at its meeting on 21st June 2022 confirmed a number of Executive appointments to outside bodies and partnerships. Further appointments are made by the Council in the following categories:

- Scrutiny and regulatory roles
- Parish level representation, parished and unparished areas
- General appointments

2.0 INSURANCE COVER FOR BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

2.1 The Council's insurance will indemnify any employee or member arising from their service on the board or participation in the capacity of governor, officer, trustee, director, committee member or other official of any not-for profit entity other than the insured.

Provided always that:

- a) The service or participation by the employee or member is specifically requested by or under the specific direction of the insured.
 - b) The insured is legally entitled to approve the service or participation and to indemnify the employee or member in respect of it.
 - c) Any payment will only be made by the insurer for an amount in excess of any indemnification or insurance coverage provided by the not-for-profit entity or afforded from any other source and to which the employee or member is entitled.
- 2.2 When a member is appointed to serve on an outside body, they should also ensure that as well as completing the Register of Financial and Other Interest form, they should complete the annual "Related Party Transactions form", with the details of those bodies on which they serve.

3.0 FEEDBACK FROM MEMBERS ON OUTSIDE BODIES

3.1 Arrangements for reporting back by Members serving on Outside Bodies are approved every year at Council as follows:

3.2 The Panels should be able to request reports from Councillors serving on outside bodies which fall within their remit. This will make it possible for members both to assess the usefulness of making appointments to bodies and be informed of any relevant matters.

3.3 Cabinet Members serving on outside bodies will report via their Cabinet Members' reports to Council.

3.4 All Members are encouraged to use the Members' Bulletin to report on the work of any such organisation they are appointed to.

4.0 APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES

4.1 **Scrutiny and Regulatory Roles**

Nominations made by the Panels are listed below and shown in Appendix 1:

- Borough Council/College of West Anglia Liaison Board - **Councillor Lowe**
- King's Lynn and West Norfolk Area Museums Committee - **Councillors de Whalley, Kemp and Bubb**
- Norfolk County Council – Norfolk Countywide Community Safety Partnership Scrutiny Sub-Panel – **Councillors Kemp and Hudson (sub)**
- Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee – **Councillors Kemp and de Whalley (sub)**
- West Norfolk Community Transport Project – **Councillor Nockolds**
- King's Lynn Football Club – **Paul Bland (non-Council)**
- Hunstanton Sailing Club – **Councillor Rose**

4.2 General Appointments, Parish Level Representation, Parished and Unparished Areas

Appendix 1 attached lists the bodies for which representatives are to be appointed and details the current representative.

- 4.3 Members who would like to put themselves forward for the bodies listed in Appendix 1 should inform their Group Leader in advance of the Full Council meeting, which will then be notified to Democratic Services. This will assist with meeting preparations.

5.0 VACANCY ON KING'S LYNN INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

Following the resignation of one of the Council representatives on the above Internal Drainage Board, Council are requested to appoint a replacement Member to serve on the Drainage Board until May 2023. For information current representatives are:

Councillors Ayres, Bubb, Crofts, Devereux, Kirk, Kunes, Long, Nockolds, Whitby and one vacancy.

6.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Mileage and subsistence allowances for Councillors attending meetings.

7.0 ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Current lists of member representation
ACSeS report on liabilities of Outside Bodies

APPENDIX 1**APPOINTMENTS TO BE MADE BY FULL COUNCIL ON 14TH JULY 2022**

Scrutiny nominations (to be confirmed by Council) are also shown below.

Name of Outside Body	Appointed/ Nominated by	Number of Representatives	Current Representative/s
Backhams Almshouses Trust	Council	1	Sally Twyman (non-council)
Bexwell Poors Land Charity	Council	1	Tony White (non-council)
Borough Council/College of West Anglia Liaison Board	1 E&C	2	Nominee - Lowe (E&C)
Brancaster Commons Committee	Council	1	Lawton
Burnham Overy Harbour Management Committee	Council	1	Sandell
Downham Market Leisure Centre Joint Management Committee	2 Council	3	Howland & 1 vacancy (Council)
Gaywood Allotment Trust	Council	4	S Collop, J Lowe, M Wilkinson and S Young (non-council)
Hunstanton and District Festival of Arts	Council	1	Bower
Hunstanton Sailing Club Development Sub Committee	1 CPP	1	Nominee -Rose
John Sugars Almshouses Charity	Council	3	Bambridge, Bone and S Twyman (non-council)
King's Lynn and West Norfolk Area Museums Committee	3 Scrutiny (E&C) and 1 Council	5	Nominees - de Whalley, Kemp and Bubb (E&C) A Tyler (Council)
King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Charity	Council	2	Bower and Bubb
King's Lynn Conservancy Board	Council	4	Ayres, Sampson, Kunes and Howland
King's Lynn Emmerich Twining Club	Council	2	Dickinson and 1 vacancy
King's Lynn Town Football Club	E&C	1	Nominee - Paul Bland (non-council)
Marriott's Warehouse Limited	Council	3	Bower, Gidney and Dr Richards (non-council)
Norfolk Countywide Community Safety Partnership Scrutiny Sub-Panel	E&C	1 + 1 sub	Nominees - Kemp and Hudson (sub)
Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee	E&C	1 + 1 sub	Nominees - Kemp and de Whalley (sub)
North End Trust	Council	1	Nockolds

Outwell Charities	Council	1	Crofts
Queen Elizabeth Hospital Governors Council	Council	1	Kunes
Safer Neighbourhood Action Panel - Downham Market	Council	2 - Chair and Vice Chair	Rose Chair and Howland Vice Chair
Safer Neighbourhood Action Panel - Hunstanton	Council	2 - Chair and Vice Chair	Beal Chair and Bubb Vice Chair
Safer Neighbourhood Action Panel - King's Lynn	Council	2 - Chair and Vice Chair	Bambridge Chair and Bone Vice Chair
Sibelco - Leziate Quarry Liaison Committee	Council	2	Howland and Manning
West Norfolk and King's Lynn Girls School Trust	Council	1	Nockolds
West Norfolk Community Transport Project	E&C	1	Nominee - Nockolds
West Norfolk Youth Advisory Group	Council	1	Lowe
West Walton Pools Charity	Council	1	Mrs B Porter (non-council)
William Cleave Educational Foundation	Council	2	Bambridge and Nockolds

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL**14 July 2022****COUNCILLOR BRIAN LONG - CABINET MEMBER FOR CORPORATE SERVICES**For the period April to 4th July 2022.**1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.****Crematorium.**

At the time of writing this report I can confirm that the next charity award from the ICCM scheme for metals recycling is to be £12000.00 the announcement as to the recipient will be made shortly. But as is usual this amount will be for a charity that works locally associated with health or bereavement.

Numbers of cremations and burials remain relatively constant, similar to pre-pandemic levels.

Car Parking

The last years full figures for parking across West Norfolk were presented to the Corporate Performance Panel at their June meeting. I think it is important to note that income (excluding season tickets) was £3.9m in 21/22 compared to £2.2m 20/21 and £3.785m 19/20. Exceeding pre-pandemic levels. Numbers of tickets purchased in King's Lynn for short term stays was slightly down on pre-pandemic levels, however at nearly 1 million tickets sold nearly double the amounts paid to park than during 20/21.

I am monitoring closely this years figures and would have reported year to date figures within this report, however stats to June were not finalised at the time of writing.

CIC

Kings Court reception area is now back to normal usage with levels of direct visitors starting to increase. The computers in reception are now available to all visitors (having previously been assigned for Ukrainian Refugees) This service is now available to them within the reception centre.

Call volumes to CIC have been higher of late with calls around Energy Rebate adding 48% to calls around Council Tax in May and 56% In June and changes to bin collections also adding to numbers. The table below shows numbers of calls and average answer times.

During the reporting period SERCO our waste and recycling collection partner had problems with their phone systems (losing all service for around 24 hours). The CIC covers the overspill calls when this happens although numbers were not high enough to cause significant increases in wait times.

Month	Number of Calls	Average Answer Time
April	8755	01:34
May	9955	02:17
June	10066	03:24
Total	28776	02:27

King's Lynn Internal Drainage Board

Whilst not part of my portfolio duties I remain Chair of King's Lynn internal drainage board. They have recently taken possession and are now occupying their new offices just off the Nar Ouse Way, on a site sold to them by the Borough Council. The KLIDB is part of a wider Group the Water Management Alliance that has expanded its operations and now provides services to Drainage Boards from the South Coast, to East of Norfolk and Suffolk and now over to the Bedford Group of IDBs. As this organisation has grown, new modern and carbon efficient offices have been required as they move towards Net Zero.

The King's Lynn IDB's new pumping station is now fully complete (save for small snags) and is fully operational at St. Germans. This has replaced a smaller station at Islington and takes water from a wide catchment right out towards Wisbech. Giving increased capacity to allow for climate change events and now provides Eel friendly passage.

2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

In Bloom

The annual In Bloom awards have not taken place during that last 2 years due to the pandemic, however this year In Bloom is back and judging day will be 21st July. Bodies involved include Gaywood Valley Conservation Group, Kings Lynn Civic Society and the Soroptomists, among others.

Some of the judging will be carried out virtually including the Allotments, where allotment holders have been asked to submit Pictures / Videos.

I have to thank all the volunteers, our Grounds and open spaces staff team and Cllr Nockolds, who has helped so much over the years to promote In Bloom.

Alive West Norfolk

In April, Alive launched its new business plan for 2022, as Chair of Alive myself and the Board signed this off, it aligns with the Council's objectives of making West Norfolk more healthy and active and includes partnership working with the NHS for GP referrals, Anglia Ruskin University and Active Norfolk, among others helping our efforts to get the best outcomes. Examples of this include Man V Fat football that has seen over 120 participants lose over 1000 kg in weight and the Summer of Play events happening again in

collaboration with the Council.

The 9th July sees the Queens Commonwealth Games Baton Relay at Lynnsport which includes a family fun day, to mark this occasion of the Baton coming to Lynn.

3 Meetings Attended and Meetings Scheduled

In addition to the usual round of Cabinet and Portfolio meetings I have also attended the following.

ICT Development Group

Water Management Alliance / KLIDB Meetings

Planning Committee (as Sub)

Alive West Norfolk Board Meeting

St Germans School to Deliver Platinum Jubilee Coins

Norfolk Strategic Flooding Alliance Meeting

East Of Ouse, Nar & Polver IDB

Stoke Ferry IDB

West Norfolk Housing Company Board meeting

Corporate Performance Panel

To Be Attended at the time of writing:

Alive West Norfolk Board

Coastal discussion with Coastal forum

West Norfolk Property Ltd Board Meeting

Norfolk Parking Partnership

Cheque Presentation ref ICCM Charity

Norfolk Coastal Members Board

Norfolk Strategic Flooding Alliance

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.

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

14th July 2022

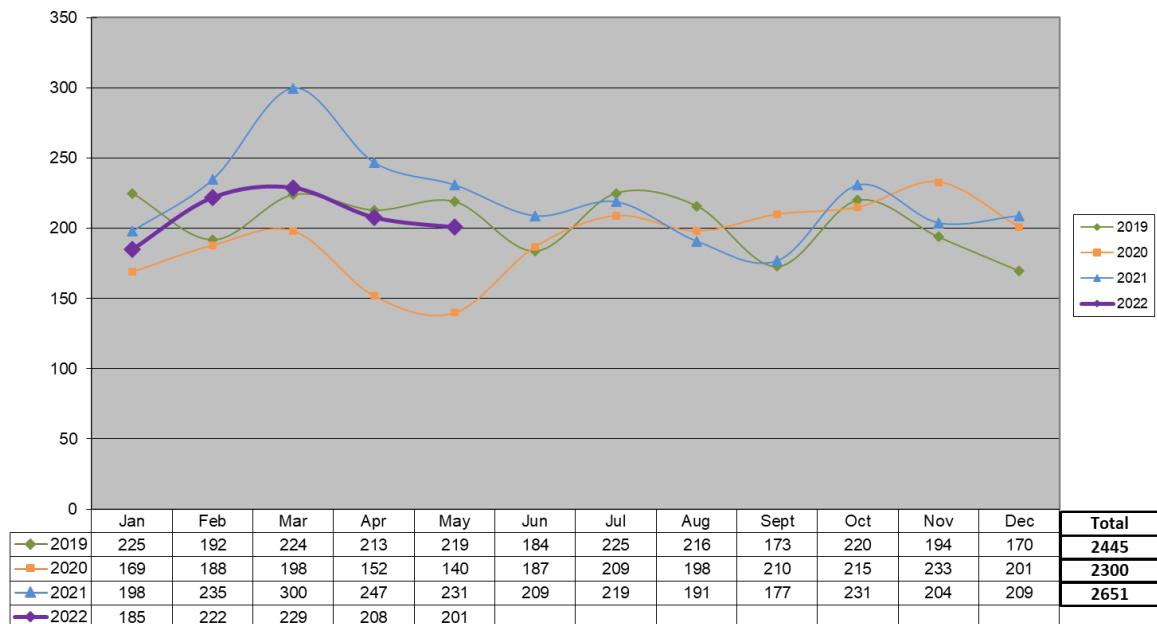
COUNCILLOR RICHARD BLUNT - CABINET MEMBER FOR DEVELOPMENT & REGENERATION

For the period from 11th April 2022 – 1st July 2022

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Planning and Discharge of Conditions applications received

Planning and discharge of condition applications received



Applications received continues to be high and we still have vacant posts to fill. I am pleased to confirm that a review of resources within the Planning Service has been completed and approved by Cabinet. Staff are now working as quickly as they can on recruiting to the existing and new posts. Recruiting to some of the post is likely to be challenging as we are aware there is a shortage of qualified planners nationally. I will provide an update on the recruitment process in future reports.

Major and Minor dwelling applications received comparison

Householder applications have dropped slightly compared to the same period last year, but still significantly higher than the same period in 2019/20.

	1/6/19 – 31/5/20	1/6/20 – 31/5/21	1/6/21 – 31/5/22
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No. of Major dwelling applications rec'd	26	28	20
No. of Minor dwelling applications rec'd	378	342	300
No. of Householder applications rec'd	620	893	824

*Minor dwelling applications = up to 10 units

Major dwelling applications = over 10 units

2021/22 rolling performance for determining planning applications 1/6/21 – 31/5/22

	National target	Performance
Major	60%	90.1%
Non – Major	70%	88.1%

Appeal Performance – decisions made by The Planning Inspectorate 1/6/21 – 31/5/22

	Dismissed	Allowed
Planning appeals	31	8
	79%	21%
Enforcement appeals	5	1
	83%	17%

The higher the number of appeals allowed, the more the Planning Inspectorate is going against the council's decisions, so a low figure of appeals allowed (upheld) is clearly preferable. For context the national average for planning appeals allowed annually has been around 34%.

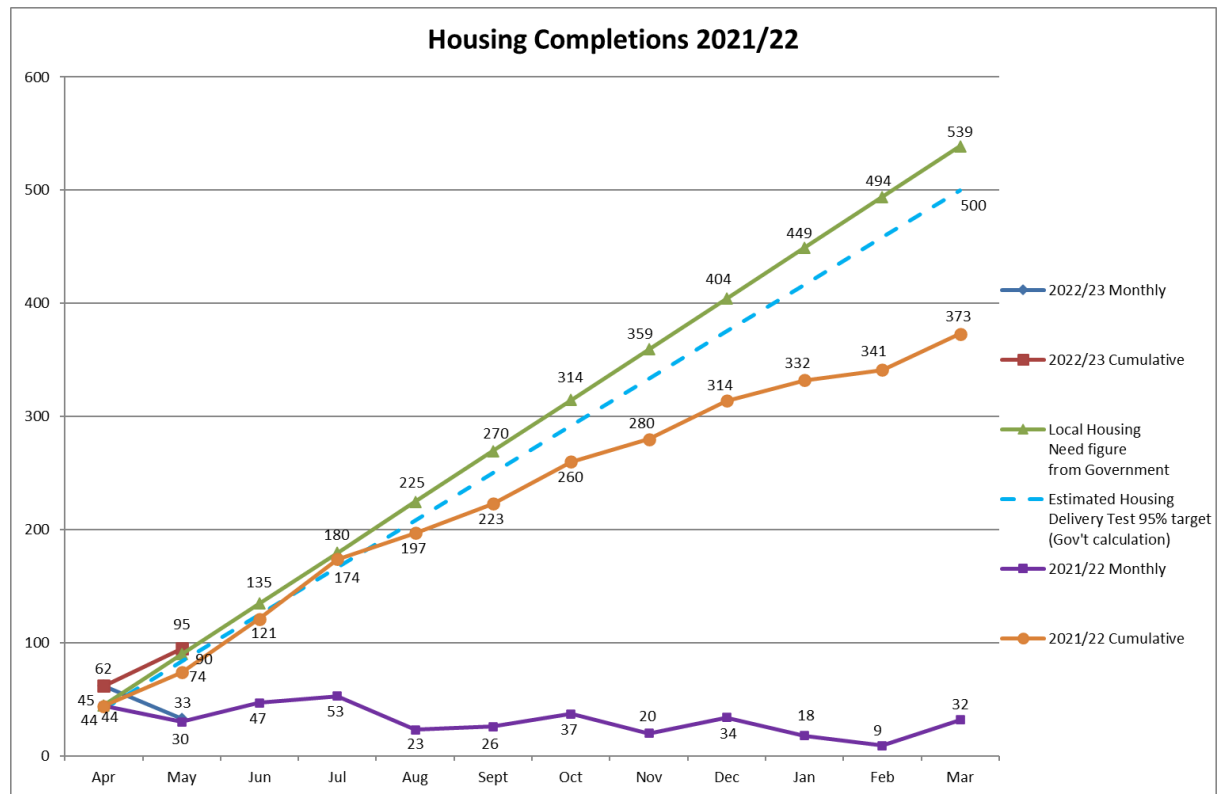
Revenue income 2022/23

Although only 2 months into the financial year, income has already exceeded projected by over £274, 000.

Projected	Actual	Variance with projected
April 22 – May 22	April 22 – May 22	
£195,000	£469,334	+£274,334

Housing Completions

Housing completions are 21 higher than the previous year and slightly above projected, 62 in April and 33 in May 2022.



Local Plan

The examination of the Local Plan continues following its submission to the Secretary of State at the end of March 2022.

This early stage of the examination process involves the Inspectors reviewing the plan and the other submitted documents to make an initial assessment. The Inspectors have sent through two sets of initial questions seeking clarification on a number of issues which officers are responding to. These letters and other information about the examination are available on the web site at https://www.west-norfolk.gov.uk/info/20079/planning_policy_and_local_plan/951/local_plan_review_2016-2036_examination

Our response to these questions and any other initial questions that may arise at this stage of the examination will help inform the matters, issues and questions for discussion at the hearing sessions expected in October/November this year. Details of the examination hearings will be published on the web site as soon as these are available.

Neighbourhood Plans

The referendums for Hunstanton and Heacham Neighbourhood Plans took place on the 16 June 2022 and both plans are now 'made' and form part of the development plan for the area.

We have been working with representatives of the following Town and Parish Councils/Neighbourhood Planning Groups

- Pentney Neighbourhood Plan - we are reviewing the latest version sent for review as well as a Statement regarding Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA).
- South Wootton – officers met with the Parish Council on 23rd June to discuss proposed revisions to the NP
- Watlington – we are reviewing the draft NP sent through for review and SEA and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) screening report
- Old Hunstanton – we are reviewing the revised Basic Condition Statement and Consultation Statement

Major Projects

- Nora 4 (Nar Valley Park)
 - First units completed Mar 2022. 94 homes to be completed this financial year (2022 /23) and 11 homes completed in 2023/24. Two sales completed June 2022. 24 no. sales homes reserved, with 7 no early bird interest. 10 PRS homes Let by WNPL. 5 affordable homes due July 2022.
- Parkway
 - Discharging pre-commencement conditions. Expected SoS September 2022.
- Salters Road
 - Groundworks complete. Contract negotiations with Freebridge near ongoing, delayed due to legal due diligence issues. Main works ready to commence.
- Lynnsport1
 - Planning consent obtained May 2022. SoS expected January 2023.
- Hunstanton Southend Road
 - Works commenced on site May 2022. Completion due November 2023
- Hunstanton Bus Station
 - Review ongoing
- Waveney Road
 - Pre-app submitted April 2022 – decision due July 2023.
- NORA 5
 - Initial Design, Open Market Housing & Specialist Extra Care housing being considered.
 - Initial site investigations and due diligence ongoing.
 - Local Housing Market analysis to inform design ongoing
- Heacham Toilets
 - Completed prior to Jubilee weekend

Regeneration

Southgate, King's Lynn Update

The Masterplan work continues to progress well. I was delighted to attend a key stakeholder workshop session last month. After reviewing the project objective and the opportunities that exist a number of scenarios were considered that include radically changing the layout and addressing some of the challenges that include a vehicle -dominated poor entry to the town, and a poor pedestrian and cycle environment. The workshop attendees made some very constructive contributions and generally welcomed a bold approach to improve the area for visitors and residents alike.

In June the Norfolk County Council confirmed their intention to select the Southgate project along with the gyratory element (from the Towns Fund Active and Clean Connectivity) as their preferred project for a bid to the transport element of the Levelling Up Fund round 2. This is a welcome opportunity that could bring closer the delivery of some truly transformational changes to our town.

The next steps include supporting Norfolk County Council in the preparation of the bid which has a deadline of 6th July. Over the summer work will continue on finalising the masterplan. In September we aim to start an extensive round of public consultation running through the autumn.

Towns Fund update

In the context of reviewing more information relating to the more detailed nature of proposals and assessing revised costs and advice on inflation and contingency arrangements it was necessary to undertake a prioritisation exercise to address a funding gap. Projects were prioritised against a number of criteria including risk and deliverability and ranked accordingly. Following this some projects were descoped (with components being removed) and some re-scoped with additional outputs being identified. One project Town Centre Re-purposing was removed. Following this process and the agreement of Cabinet and the Town Deal Board project adjustment forms have been submitted to government. The remaining business cases to be submitted to government assume that government will approve the proposed changes – we expect to hear in early July.

A detailed update on progress (last updated 7 June) is shown in the table below.

Project Updates

BUSINESS CASE	BUSINESS CASE SUBMISSION DATE (including full independent assurance and approval)	PROGRESS UPDATE
PROJECT 1 Youth & Retraining Pledge	14/01/22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation for delivery phase underway. • Recruitment complete • Staff premises secured • Project Partners SLAs • Procurement of providers underway
PROJECT 2 Public Realm	14/01/22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement underway • Arts Council application for art trail submitted • Finger post installation underway • Rail Station Street Furniture procurement complete • Revised design & build procurement approach agreed for Pop up kiosks
PROJECT 3 Multi User Community Hub	30/09/22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exclusivity agreement completed for preferred site acquisition process underway • Detailed initial feasibility completed inc updated costs • Consultation complete • Project Board established • RIBA Stage 1 design commissioned • Extension to business case submission date agreed • Approval of project adjustment required by government for project to proceed.
PROJECT 4 Town Centre Repurposing		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site visits, building options, valuations and assessment of potential uses ongoing • TDB approved project cancellation and reallocation of funds subject to government approval
PROJECT 5 Riverfront Regeneration	31/10/22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussions and due diligence continue with interested parties for Sommerfeld & Thomas site • Landscape architect commissioned following stakeholder workshop

Meetings Attended (including Teams Zoom and YouTube)

Portfolio Meetings, Development and Regeneration
 Planning Committee
 Planning Committee Sifting
 Regeneration and Development Panel
 Corporate Performance Panel
 Various HAZ project meetings
 Cabinet
 Cabinet Siting
 Cabinet Briefings
 Full Council
 Various Meetings with Officers
 Town Fund Project Board
 Riverfront Project workshop
 Norfolk Strategic Planning Forum
 CNC Board meeting
 QEH Briefing
 Joint Panel Meeting

West Norfolk Transport and Infrastructure Steering Group
South Gates Project Stakeholders meeting
West Winch Project Stakeholders Group

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

14 JULY 2022

COUNCILLOR ANGIE DICKINSON - CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE

For the period 25 April 2022 - 14 July 2022

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

During this period my main focus has been on improving reporting for the Member Major Projects Board (MMPB) in order that it can properly fulfil its Terms of Reference, since agreeing their revision in November 2021. Given that the Council is undertaking a very ambitious programme of major projects, the need to have a Member involvement is crucial. Early progress in terms of updating Members on what the current major projects are resulted in the need to agree an appropriate reporting procedure to the MMPB so that all issues are covered. As a result Members received a RAG (Red, Amber, Green) rating report detailing the status of all current projects as part of the MMPB's agenda for its meeting on 29 June. At that meeting it was agreed to improve that report further as it forms the basic data set for all projects. The next meeting is due on 20 Jul so only 2 weeks to effect those changes, but Members agreed that it was a step in the right direction and that the final version of what will be the opening report on each MMPB agenda would be finalised in time for its September meeting.

Another major milestone in recognising the importance of major projects is the creation of a new Executive Director post whose main focus will be on regeneration projects within the Borough and recruitment to that post has been progressed as a matter of urgency. An Appointments Panel was convened on 5 July, the outcome of which is eagerly awaited.

Keeping a close eye on major projects is crucial to the Council being successful in their delivery and the Project Accountant, working closely with the Corporate Projects Programme Manager, will focus not only on cost and delivery but also risk and implications on cash flow, financing and resource implications when the project is complete, all of which I detailed at the meeting of Audit Committee on 20 June.

Work on the finance elements of major projects dovetails with the work to improve our revenue and capital monitoring procedures. I have established a number of areas for improvement with the S151 Officer and her deputy, together with the recently appointed Projects Accountant, whose main focus will be on aforementioned major projects. Monitoring is an ever evolving mechanism for regular reporting on the state of the Council's finances linking the formal budget setting exercise in February and the annual outturn report that sets out the position at the end of the financial year. Improvements have already been made not only to include formal reporting to Audit Committee but also regular review

by me before publication to Members. We are currently on target for me to receive a draft statement of the position as at 31 March for the year 2021/22 and the position in the current financial year up to 30 June. These reports have been improved to provide better information and also include more detail on capital spending, outside of major projects. We aim to have a draft ready each month by the end of the month following, which is a significant improvement of what has previously happened.

We have already started work on the budget process for 2023/24. This is much earlier than in previous years and will allow time to consider various scenarios in terms of how to address inflationary pressures on our limited resources. Members will be aware that the Council has significant sums held in its General Fund and Earmarked Reserves, however last year's four year financial plan showed that the General Fund will have been depleted to the minimum recommended level by year 4 with a shortfall at the end of that four year plan, which was set with the maximum allowed increase to Council Tax for 2022/23. Since then inflation has soared, due to a variety of reasons all outside of the council's control and therefore the budget process might require a lot of difficult decisions to be made. As previously promised, all members will be engaged in the process at an early stage. The process will include the opportunity for suggestions to be made to create new income streams to support. Whatever happens, financial pressures will make the decisions we make very difficult.

The Finance Team is continuing its work on the closure of 2021/22's accounts, but we continue to have problems in publishing our Statement of Accounts for the years 2019/20 and 2020/21, and 2021/22's will be no different. The delay is no longer due to our own historic resourcing issues as the Team is now fully resourced, however, our external auditors continue to have significant resourcing issues, which is contributing to the delay. It continues to be an ongoing issue as timing is key, and what might be convenient for our auditors may clash with other demands on the Team such as the budget process. We continue to press on and hope that Audit Committee will formally receive the statement of Accounts for 2019/20 shortly. It's interesting to note this Council is not the only one to have encountered problems with its external auditors and recently published figures show that as at 31 March 2022, 51 councils were waiting for their 2019/20 accounts to be signed off by external audit, with 228 waiting for 2020/21's. Interestingly there are some councils still awaiting audited accounts going back as far as 2015/16 but it's likely that those councils have issues other than awaiting external audit.

2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments

Work on all aspects of major projects will continue to be a priority, especially as the Council has made bids for Levelling Up funding, something that had been planned for future rounds of funding from central government, but our plans have had to change due to the very likely possibility that there will be no future rounds to apply to for such funding.

An area that requires my immediate involvement is the Risk Management Policy and Strategy, together with the various tiers of Risk Register that are inextricably linked. Audit Committee has identified that this is an area that requires attention and work has already begun to record the various Risk Registers that are held by the Council, for example Corporate, Service Area,

Project, etc.

There has been good news in terms of Government funding for future years – we have been informed that the settlement due to be announced in December 2022 will be for the next 2 years but we don't know how much. It would be rash to assume it would be at current levels but knowing we will receive Government grant up to 31 March 2025 is reassuring.

Earmarked reserves is another area that is currently being examined. The Council has a high number of reserves, maintained for a variety of reasons. Some are held for reasons that we have no control over, for example sums held in the Collection Fund are there for statutory reasons and will eventually be paid over to major precepting authorities, whilst CIL and S.106 funds are held for specific purposes. There then remains a number of funds maintained for specific purposes such as the funding of future years' capital expenditure, projects that have been delayed because of Covid restrictions, areas where expenditure is unknown, such as insurance claim excesses, and yet others where expenditure is cyclical over a period of more than one year, such as election expenses. It is not my intention to search for funds that can be freed up to support our revenue budget but it would be useful to rationalise those that we do have, ensure that the correct service area is attributed with ownership, and record the policy that determines contributions to and withdrawals from each fund. On completion that would give me, as portfolio holder, a better understanding and the ability to reassure others that such funds are held for valid reasons.

3 Meetings Attended and Meetings Scheduled

27 Apr	Cabinet Briefing
28 Apr	Planning Training
3 May	Cabinet Briefing
4 May	Portfolio Holder Briefing
9 May	QEH Covid Briefing
11 May	Cabinet Briefing
12 May	Budget Planning
12 May	Annual Council
13 May	Portfolio Holder Briefing
17 May	Cabinet Briefing
20 May	Portfolio Holder Briefing
24 May	Cabinet Briefing
25 May	Cabinet Briefing
30 May	Portfolio Holder Briefing
30 May	Cabinet Sifting
6 Jun	Regeneration & Development Panel
8 Jun	Cabinet
9 Jun	West Norfolk Transport & Infrastructure Steering Group
10 Jun	Portfolio Holder Briefing
10 Jun	Levelling Up
14 Jun	Cabinet Briefing
14 Jun	Regeneration & Development Panel
16 Jun	Projects data
16 Jun	Cabinet Briefing
16 Jun	Major Projects

16 Jun	Corporate Performance Panel
20 Jun	Audit Committee
21 Jun	Cabinet
23 Jun	Pay Award
23 Jun	Portfolio Holder Briefing
24 Jun	Special Cabinet
28 Jun	Major Projects
28 Jun	Pay Award follow up
28 Jun	Cabinet Briefing
28 Jun	Planning Training
29 Jun	Member Major Projects Board
30 Jun	King's Lynn Area Consultative Committee
1 Jul	Portfolio Holder Briefing
2 Jul	Leader Update
4 Jul	Appointments Panel Training
4 Jul	Guildhall Tour
5 Jul	Appointments Panel
7 Jul	Cabinet
8 Jul	Portfolio Holder Briefing
8 Jul	Leader Update
11 Jul	Cabinet Sifting
12 Jul	Cabinet Briefing
13 Jul	Portfolio Holder Briefing
14 Jul	Council

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

14 July 2022

COUNCILLOR ADRIAN LAWRENCE - CABINET MEMBER FOR PROPERTY

For the period April to July 2022

Progress on Portfolio Matters.

I am pleased to report that we have commenced marketing of a residential development site at Burnham Market, that I have referred to in a previous council report earlier in the year, using a local/regional agent to help stimulate expressions of interest. We have brought forward this site following consultation with the local Parish Council and the local Ward Member and we have sought to strike a balance between the level of potential capital receipt and the form of development and housing type that will be delivered. We are seeking offers from developers who will develop out the site in accordance with the planning permission secured by the Property Services Team. We are seeking offers above £1,000,000 and requested that sealed offers are submitted by 29th July 2022.

Capital Receipts such as those mentioned above are important to the Council as they help to fund our Capital Programme and reduce our need to borrow funds. The Property Team has also recently completed a land sale at St John's Business Estate in Downham Market the development of which will be funded and managed by the private sector. With regard to future land sales and capital receipts the Property Team is looking at a number of other sites across the borough, however, the team has made a particularly significant move forward in helping to set up a series of potential future land sale transactions at the Nar Ouse Regeneration Area Enterprise Zone (NORAEZ). The Property Team has been working with Norfolk County Council (Highways) and have recently tendered for the delivery of the necessary road and utility infrastructure works to open up a significant swathe of commercial development land. It is important for council colleagues to note that these infrastructure costs will be recouped over time following our striking a deal to retain a greater proportion of the Business Rates generated from the NORAEZ site. I am anticipating works commencement in August/September and the construction contract should run for approximately 36 weeks. I understand that this issue was discussed at a recent Member Major Projects Board (MMPB) meeting, and should the Board Members require a more detailed briefing I will instruct the Assistant Director Property & Projects accordingly.

NORAEZ (Nar Ouse Regeneration Area Enterprise Zone)

The Property Team is dealing with a number of enquiries for development sites, as well as for the speculative offices and light industrial units under construction, at the NORAEZ. In my view the opening up of the NORAEZ with the necessary infrastructure is critical for this council, not only in generating capital receipts, but it will also stimulate significant levels of, mainly private sector, investment with organisations constructing facilities for their business activities and then operating thereafter within our local economy.

With regard to other project-related activities that the Property & Projects department is dealing with :

Sommerfeld & Thomas and Former Grain Silo Site :

We have commenced ground investigation works on both sites so that we have a proper understanding what will be necessary when the sites are brought forward for development. These works form part of the important “de-risking” process and will feed into the design (and costing) process. We have successfully tendered for the demolition works to the large 1950’s/1960’s portal frame warehouse structure to the rear of the historic Sommerfeld & Thomas quay front warehouse – and the tender submissions have come in just about on budget which is positive considering the cost price inflation that is being experienced currently.

In addition to the above, as part of the proposed demolition process, it has been necessary for us to deal with a number of Party Wall Act issues in respect of the (some significantly) Listed buildings in close proximity to the site. We are in dialogue with the adjacent owners and will deal with these issues, and the owners, in as sensitive a way as is possible.

Town Deal :

Although Town Deal is within the remit of one of my Cabinet colleagues, the Property & Projects Team is involved with the Guildhall proposals and the Assistant Director Property & Projects is leading on the Riverfront Regeneration Project element of the Town Deal Programme.

The Riverfront project has been redefined and the scope reduced to a more manageable scale with focus now directed at the Custom House, Purfleet area, King Staithe Square, and part of the former Grain Silo site. Preliminary design and adaptation proposals for these areas is currently being considered by our colleagues on the Town Deal Board and by Cabinet colleagues.

Princess Theatre, Hunstanton :

Planning Permission has now been secured for the roof replacement works following completion of the design and specification of the works. The Procurement Team has now been instructed to advertise the contract. It is anticipated that the works will commence sometime towards the end of September, once the main trading/holiday season is over.

We are liaising with our tenants of the Princess Theatre in respect of the letting of the contract and the various Health & Safety issues that need to be complied with in such an operational building.

The Council's commercial property portfolio continues to perform well although one of our town centre retail tenants has vacated their premises after many years. The Property Team tried to renegotiate lease terms, however, the business owners had already decided that they no longer wished to carry on trading. In previous Council Reports I have highlighted the issue relating to the level of commercial rent arrears that have mainly accrued owing to the Covid-19 Pandemic. Councillors may recall that I set out that Central Government had provided Business Tenants with a degree of protection temporarily from their commercial landlords (from seeking possession etc for non-payment of rent) within the Coronavirus Act 2020. A new Act has now come into effect, the Commercial Rent (Coronavirus) Act 2022, which now sets out a framework for commercial landlords and their tenants to resolve the rent arrears situation. We have worked with the Finance Team to separate out pre-Covid, Covid, and post-Covid rent arrears and we will be progressing a programme of work to address these issues.

Meetings Attended etc

Cabinet meetings
Cabinet Briefings
Cabinet Siftings
Portfolio Meetings with Officers
Phone calls with Officers

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

14 July 2022

COUNCILLOR SAM SANDELL- CABINET MEMBER FOR PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES

For the period May 12TH – July 4th 2022

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Housing Figures

Figures as follows -

Housing register

1350 live applications.

6 Emergency

196 High

396 Medium

752 Low

16 lets advised so far. Freebridge have lack of available properties.

235 new or change in circumstances received.

Housing Options

159 applicants given housing advice, of these 83 progressed into homeless declarations and/or are ongoing investigations.

Night Shelter

The Nightshelter closed at the end of June. The Nightshelter provides supported emergency accommodation to anyone rough sleeping or at risk of rough sleeping. The Council's Housing Options team have supported a number of people staying in the Nightshelter to find alternative accommodation. The Council will continue to provide support to anyone rough sleeping or at risk of rough sleeping to ensure that this is prevented. As set out in the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy the Council's objective is to eradicate rough sleeping and prevent it from occurring. Where rough sleeping does occur we seek to act urgently to find an alternative, and to take actions to prevent it reoccurring. To achieve this, partnership working with all

of our partner organisations to provide wrap around support and to find long term sustainable solutions to end a persons rough sleeping continues to be a key area of our focus and critical in ensuring people are supported holistically to thrive.

Integrated Care System

The new Integrated Care System has created a new structure for delivery of Health & Wellbeing across the county. The new Health and Wellbeing Partnership brings together colleagues from the county, borough, health services, wider and local VCSE sector organisations and other partners to make a positive impact on people's health and wellbeing in each place. The partnership collectively drives strategies and activities for their place in order to:-

- Promote health and wellbeing of residents
- Address the wider determinants of health
- Tackle health inequalities
- Develop and deploy support which prevents crises
- Align, develop and influence NHS and local government services and commissioning.

The Partnership has had its first formal meeting and agreed the following priorities, which are based on known health inequalities within West Norfolk.

- Mental Health
- Weight Management
- Alcohol Reduction

The partnership has a fund of £347,500.00 to commit to partners delivering projects around these key areas and supporting covid recovery. This fund has to be spent by 31 March 2023. The partnership has asked for Expressions of Interest for funding from relevant services and VCSE's and is in the process of determining which bids can be supported.

Community Alcohol Partnership (CAP)

You will see from my meetings attended list, that Mark Whitmore MCIEH CEnvH (Assistant Director - Health, Wellbeing and Public Protection Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk) and myself were invited to the CAP awards at the House of Commons on 6th June 2022.

CAPs are schemes established and run by people from a variety of organisations within their communities including retailers to identify and tackle the problems associated with alcohol consumption by young people.

We didn't win any awards, but we did learn from our trip. As portfolio member and chair of the Integrated Care system, I want to work with CAP for one of the priorities with the ICS to tackle alcohol reduction.

2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

Active Clean Connectivity. (ACC)

I sit on the ACC board, we continue to meet on a regular basis. The Gyrotory strand of project has been moved to the Levelling up fund bid. This has now been approved by the KLTDB.

The Active travel hub was needed for Kings Lynn and will remain as part of the ACC project.

3 Meetings Attended and Meetings Scheduled

May 12th Full Council

May 16th Jubilee Grant meeting

May 17th Cabinet Briefing

May 18th Active Clean Connectivity meeting (ACC)

May 20th Integrated Care Health and Well-being Board

May 23rd Portfolio Catch up

May 24th Cabinet Briefing

May 27th Visit to Burnham Market and Docking School jubilee Coins assembly

May 31st Cabinet Briefing

June 6th House of Commons Community Alcohol Partnership awards

June 8th Cabinet

June 14th Judging Teacher Awards

June 15th Introduction session with Service leadership

June 16th ACC

June 17th Integrated Care Board KLWNBC

June 21st Cabinet

June 24th Cabinet levelling up

June 28th Cabinet Briefing

June 29th Portfolio Catch up

July 4th Portfolio catch up

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

14 July 2022

COUNCILLOR GRAHAM MIDDLETON – DEPUTY LEADER & CABINET MEMBER FOR BUSINESS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE DEVELOPMENT

For the period May – July 2022

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

King Lynn Town Deal

Guildhall complex

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank members for their involvement in the further development of the business case for the town fund bid. The task group that was set up brought forward many credible questions which have helped to form the final case progress. It was a very informative meeting with the right level of scrutiny and support for the plan.

CIO

Following direction consulted between myself and the task group, work has now commenced on recruiting 3 key members with high level of experience in the arts, theatre and cultural scenes, I'll keep members posted with progress.

Hunstanton Advisory Group.

A group of key stakeholders has now been formed in Hunstanton to act as an advisory board. A mix of politicians from all levels including business individuals and other sectors. So far the group have formed opinion on the LUF bid for a new oasis. Work will continue with this group and I'll work closely with borough colleagues Cllr Beal and Cllr Bower who have already brought valid ideas and suggestions forward to push Hunstanton forward for the better, for the future.

Events

We have seen over the last few weeks many events that have been well attended by the public it's great to see so many happy faces and really makes me proud to not only live in west Norfolk but play a part in our fantastic offering.

It's great to see King Lynn festival and festival too come back to the town, 2 events this council financially supports.

Customs house

As you are all aware myself and Cllr Nockolds having been working hard on securing some activity for the customs house and a use for the building. Cllr Nockolds and the officer team have held various meetings with potential users and we are delighted that the greyfriars gallery group have just last week signed a license to open and display their works over the summer months. They are now working hard on a timetable and myself or Elizabeth will update you all once we know more. Thanks to all involved.

3 Meetings Attended and Meetings Scheduled

Various meetings within my role as deputy leader and cabinet member

From diary 97 in total since last full council in April, plus usual hours in officers and emails.

I also attended the LGA conference over 3 days last week