

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

17 November 2016

COUNCILLOR MRS KATHY MELLISH - CABINET MEMBER FOR HUMAN RESOURCES, FACILITIES AND SHARED SERVICES

For the period 30 September to 17 November 2016

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Firstly, the BID vote result will have been announced between writing this report and the Full Council meeting so you will be aware of the outcome. We are clearly looking for a positive result as this will give the retailers more scope for driving retail in Kings Lynn. Town footfall is up by 8% across the year so far.

It was pleasing to hear that the Army Recruitment team wanted to stage a fayre around King's Lynn and that there would be an assortment of vehicles and stalls to view. I hope that it was a worthwhile exercise for them.

Of course, Halloween has been and gone, an ever-growing event each year. 20 stores took part in a Halloween trail and entertainment all provided for free as a joint initiative with HHS Vancouver Quarter and ourselves.

Another great advertisement for the Town is that we will be on national TV this year when the BBC One Show will be live here during their Rickshaw challenge for Children in Need. They will be on King Staithe Square however it is predicted to be one of our high tide evenings and therefore will relocate to the Red Mount if the barriers have to be deployed.

Now I'd like to take the opportunity on behalf of the Council to express my thanks and appreciation to the Civil Enforcement Officers (CEO) within Parking Operations who on a daily basis go out in all weathers undertaking what is probably one of the least popular roles the Council undertakes. This has never been more apparent than when of our CEOs was subjected to a barrage of social media abuse for merely undertaking to check the validity of a blue badge. I have seen the video recordings of the incident and am satisfied that the information portrayed on social media was a misleading and inaccurate representation of what went on. Regrettably this doesn't lessen the impact to the individuals concerned, we are in the process of formally corresponding with the individual in the hope that they will acknowledge the inaccuracies on their post and either correct these or remove them. As said this is often a thankless task but again I would like to emphasise my appreciation on the professionalism and consistency to those involved.

Following on from that our CCTV technical team have recently worked with Norfolk Constabulary on a large drugs operation. The organisations working so closely together have enabled us with our equipment and expertise to provide the Police with the access and evidence they needed to progress the arrest of four individuals for drug related offences. It is rewarding to see that the public purse is being used effectively by our organisations working so closely together to gain the maximum benefit of each other's expertise with the overriding objective of ensuring that King's Lynn & West Norfolk remains a safe place.

Also, worthy of note is that through a partnership with Breckland Council arrests were made for an assault where the cameras that provided the key method of identification had been installed for less than twelve hours. This again reflects the efficiencies of public sector bodies working in co-operation.

2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

9 November – BID ballot count.
Regular meetings with Officers and Executive Directors

3 Meetings Attended and Meetings Scheduled

Officer meetings
Cabinet meetings and Portfolio updates
Cabinet Sifting
Panel meetings – attending or observing
CPE at County Hall
Interviews for Independent person on Standards Committee