

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

11 April 2019

COUNCILLOR BRIAN LONG - LEADER & CABINET MEMBER FOR RESOURCES

For the period 21 February to 1 April 2019

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Council's Financial Position:

As at the February monitoring report the revenue budget has a further favourable report variance of £105,460. This, combined with other savings made during the 2018/19 year means we should finish the year nearly £500,000 more going to reserves than initially expected. This is down to multiple factors but is well ahead of the just over £100k expected at the start of this financial year. In putting this balance to reserves we have a better starting position to 2019/20 than envisaged when budget papers were presented in February.

Norfolk Coast Partnership - Charitable Trust.

I attended the launch of a new charity the Norfolk Coast Trust which is being set up to accompany the Norfolk Coast Partnership to further its aspirations to improve and enhance the area of outstanding natural beauty. The Launch event was held at the visitor centre at Cley Next The Sea. The Charity which is now about to look for formal incorporation with the Charity Commission will help to deliver practical outcomes and projects that are not within the remit of the NCP at present.

Association of Drainage Authorities.

I recently attended the local branch meeting for ADA – Welland and Nene Branch and was delighted to be made branch vice chairman. Despite not having held the Environment portfolio for over two years I still keep closely involved in water management and drainage issues. This has given me a further platform to present how Drainage Boards affects local government finances. A point that I also made to Rishi Sunak MP on his recent visit to Kings Lynn.

2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

This being the last report prior to the Elections, my forthcoming activity will be of course affected by the outcome of those elections. I would however like to use this report to thank all Councillors for their input and questions to all of my previous reports as Leader.

Also, I especially would like to thank Cllr. Elizabeth Nockolds, for her efforts as my deputy and the rest of my Cabinet Colleagues and group for their support.

3 Meetings Attended and Meetings Scheduled

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

Norfolk Coast Partnership – Various meetings including a review of protected landscape bodies.

Kings Lynn Internal Drainage Board.

Association of Drainage Authorities – Welland and Nene Branch

Meeting with apprentices for apprentice week

West Norfolk Housing Company Board

West Norfolk Property Board

Mayors Business Awards

Various Meetings as Board Member – Freebridge Community Housing

Fenland District Council – Scrutiny task group for Economic Development

Meeting with Local Government Minister – Rishi Sunak MP.

Exhibition launch at Trues Yard – Bygone Shops of Lynn

Meeting with Norse Care – Future provision of care in West Norfolk.

Meeting with new port Manager ABP Kings Lynn