

## CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

17 October 2019

### **COUNCILLOR GRAHAM MIDDLETON - CABINET MEMBER FOR BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT**

For the period 6 September to 8 October 2019

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

##### Future High Streets

Work is well underway in producing our draft bid for the Future High Streets fund. Officers are working hard on schemes that encapsulate the directive from the government. A draft bid needs to be completed by January 15th and a final bid submitted by 30th April. Members will see these ideas at Regeneration and Development committee soon with a date to be confirmed.

##### Future towns fund

It has been heavily publicised that Kings Lynn has been earmarked as a potential receiver of some £25 million as part of a government fund to improve towns. At this stage we are still awaiting details of this and work will commence once we have direction of possible areas of development.

##### NORA

Infrastructure works and funding are well underway within Cllr Gidney's portfolio but from a business perspective I'm happy to see progress with the 6 speculative units being built by the council. In terms of business development we have already had positive conversations with other interested parties who wish to be sited at NORA and are worked with them to accommodate their needs. The future looks positive with interest in a mix of office and industrial proposals coming forward.

##### Mayors business awards

I thought that you might like to know that this year's Mayor's Business Awards have now opened for entries.

The Borough Council has again joined forces with the Lynn News and other partners to allow us to launch this year's scheme to acknowledge and celebrate the success of businesses in West Norfolk.

There are ten different award categories each with their own sponsor and judge. You can enter as many categories as you wish

More information about the categories and their sponsors together with application

forms can be found on the Lynn News website at [www.mayorsbusinessawards.co.uk](http://www.mayorsbusinessawards.co.uk)

In addition to supporting the awards scheme as a whole, the Borough Council is directly sponsoring and judging the 'Mayor's Business of the Year'. This prestigious award will acknowledge a business which has made a noteworthy or significant achievement within a strong overall business performance

Business week ( Discover Kings Lynn initiative)

Business Week went well, more participants would have been great as the speakers were all excellent. The events followed by careers fair was particularly good with over 100 students from CWA attending. Informal feedback from businesses is that they would like to do this event again.

Discover Kings Lynn ( BID ) summer events comments.

"In terms of events over the summer, BID recognise the investment that the Council make in putting on these events that do bring a lot of people into the town. We'd like to work more closely with you to promote them, to look at maximising business opportunities from them and to joint planning an events calendar that picks up on some of the feedback we've had from businesses and through the Vision King's Lynn work. On this note I'd like to propose that BID pulls together a meeting of interested parties for early in the new year to look at events for 2020."

Vicky Etheridge BID Manager

## **2 Meetings Attended and Meetings Scheduled**

Hunstanton town council liaison meeting  
Governance task group  
Cabinet sifting  
Cabinet  
CPP  
R and D committee  
Heritage Day  
Soap box Derby  
Portfolio meeting Chris Bamfield  
Officer meetings including, Jason Richardson, Martin Chrisholm, Matthew Henry, Mark Stanford, Fiona Huebank, Neil Gromit, Paul Harrison, Lorraine Gore, Chris Bamfield.  
Hunstanton CCT  
Joint portfolio meeting Cllr Gidney  
Town and Around interview  
Vicky Etheridge (BID Manager)  
Sir Henry Bellingham MP  
Cllr Andrew Jamieson ( Cabinet member for finance NCC)