

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

3 December 2020

Cllr Graham Middleton - Cabinet Member for Business Development

For the period September to November 2020

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

This month has seen much emphasis on delivering the final town investment plan to government. However 2nd lockdown has brought much concern to west Norfolk business. I'd like to urge all business to apply for the new round of government support grants, if you meet the criteria. We will continue to actively support business where we can throughout this difficult time.

- High Street HAZ – agreed at the special cabinet. The purpose of this is to 1. Help re-purpose vacant underused shops including upper floors, 2. Help create opportunities for people to live in the town centre 3. Preserve/ save highly architecturally valuable heritage assets (shop facades). Historic England have asked us to confirm interest from key 3rd party investors that we are proposing to work with (Broadland HA and Freebridge HA) on residential conversion work. When we have done this a 4 year agreement will be signed and with £1.6m investment package. Commence work early next year, it is aligned with other funding streams and opportunities for re-purposing the town centre.
- FHSF – still expect to hear this month as they have mentioned November.
- Towns Fund – submission of TIP at the end of October. Will expect to hear by the end of the year or early January. Given the success of the Town Deal Board and levels of community engagement it is agreed that we will continue with co-ordinating the Board and seek to build on the public/ private partnership we have established.

Item	Status	ERDF Reopening High Streets Safely Fund (Borough wide)	Norfolk Tourism Support Package Allocation (Borough wide)	Town Deal Accelerated Funding (KL only)
Small Business Grant Fund	Funds closed		£ 45,000.00	
Adaption Business Fund	Funds closed		£ 45,000.00	

Digital Signage	Underway	£ 47,000.00	£ 70,000.00		
Traditional Signage (safe tourism, safe reopening /consumer confidence messaging)	Underway	£ 3,000.00	£ 7,000.00		
Staff resource, Cleaning Products & Waste facilities (compactable bins for Hunstanton)	Underway		£ 103,000.00		
Heacham Toilets refurb contribution	Subject to other match funding		£ 10,000.00		
Outdoor seating	Underway		£ 25,000.00		
Street Furniture/Public Realm Improvements	KL Public Realm Action Plan underway		£ 55,000.00	£ 152,472.00	
Communications and public information activity to ensure that reopening of local economies can be managed successfully and safely (signage, pavement markers, bollard	Underway	£ 31,500.00			

covers etc)				
Business-facing awareness raising activities to ensure that reopening of local economies can be managed successfully and safely.	Underway	£ 20,000.00		
Temporary public realm changes to ensure that reopening of local economies can be managed successfully and safely (temporary planters, hand sanitisers)	Installed in majority of locations where requested	£ 30,000.00		
Developing Action Plan -Invest West Norfolk Business & Consumer Confidence Survey	Completed July 2020	£ 3,200.00		
Total		£ 134,700	£ 361,461	£ 152,472

Meetings Attended and Meetings Scheduled

BID
R&D Panel
Portfolio session with exec Director
Cabinet
Cabinet briefing
Portfolio session with various officers
Town deal board

Public realm