## CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

# 8<sup>th</sup> July 2021

# COUNCILLOR RICHARD BLUNT - CABINET MEMBER FOR DEVELOPMENT & REGENERATION

For the period from 21<sup>ST</sup> May 2021 to 25<sup>th</sup> June 2021

# 1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

# Planning and Discharge of Conditions applications received

Planning and discharge of condition applications received



2021 has seen a significant increase in the number of applications received. From January – May 1,216 applications have been received compared to 847 the previous year, an increase of 364 applications.

There is still a backlog of applications to validate because of the high number of applications received in the last 9 months. The backlog is reducing but it will take several months to clear the backlog and return to pre Covid 19 service standards.

## Major and Minor dwelling applications received comparison

The number of minor dwelling applications have decreased over the last 3 years, but we have seen a significant increase in householder applications in the last 12 months.

	1/6/18 - 31/5/19	1/6/19 – 31/5/20	1/6/20 - 31/5/21
No. of Major dwelling applications	33	26	28
No. of Minor dwelling applications	442	377	337
No. of Householder applications	686	621	878

<sup>\*</sup>Minor dwelling applications = up to 10 units

### 2021 performance for determining planning applications (Jan – May 2021)

	National target	Performance
Major	60%	100%
Non – Major	70%	95%

## Appeal Performance – decisions made by The Planning Inspectorate 17/6/20 – 18/6/21

	Dismissed	Allowed
Planning appeals	38	19
	67%	33%
Enforcement appeals	6	0
	100%	0%

The national average for planning appeals allowed is around 34%.

#### Revenue income 2021/22

Despite an increase in applications income is slightly below projected.

Projected	Actual	Variance
Apr 21 – May 21	Apr 21 – May 21	
£211,667	£176,168	-£35,499

**CIL** Funding Applications received for the period from 25/01/2021 – 30/04/2021.

There were 72 records with 57 completed applications, which will be follow the funding allocation process, as details within the attached reports and also the CIL Governance Document FY20/21.

The application submissions are broken down as follows:

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48	Local Project Applications	
8	Community Project Applications	
1	Strategic Project Application	
14	Blank Submissions	
1	Duplicate Submission	

Major dwelling applications = over 10 units

# **Housing Completions**

Completions have started well, 43 in April and 30 in May, just 17 below the projected local housing need figure from Government and up 51 on the same period last year.



# Neighbourhood Plans -

- Four NPs are going to Referendum later in July to (hopefully) gain community agreement to them (Thornham, Holme, Upwell and Tilney All Saints).
- Final Examiner reports have been received for Castle Acre and Terrington St John
- Hunstanton and Heacham are at Examination
- We are seeing a great deal of interest in new NPs and Officers have met with parishes to discuss the content or processes.

#### Local Plan Review -

- The Local Plan Review is being presented to Council (at this meeting) for their agreement to complete the Pre-Submission consultation and go on to submit it the Planning Inspectorate for Examination.
- There has been a series of presentations to Members and parish and town councils to explain the process involved.
- The consultation is anticipated to start at the end of July, subject to the decision of Council.

## Regeneration

Following the Town Deal announcement, the Council and Town Deal Board will be going through a prioritisation process to confirm which projects we will proceed with, using the maximum £25m Town deal offered to King's Lynn.

After a decision taken by Cabinet last week not to progress with the Parkway Bridge (which formed part of the Active & Clean connectivity programme of the Town Investment Plan), we are currently rescoping the active travel measures/schemes which would complement the revised Parkway scheme and improve key town centre routes for walking and cycling, as identified as priorities in the LCWIP.

Once this work is complete we will be able to complete the project prioritisation for our Town Deal with Council and the Town Deal Board and the Project Confirmations we are required to submit back to government by 31 August 2021.

It was agreed at Cabinet that the Council will commission masterplanning of the Southgates Regeneration Area to develop a vision and strategy for future development of the sites at this key town centre gateway. The work will be commissioned over the next few months and will include a thorough community and stakeholder consultation and engagement process to help us shape the future vision and plans for the area. This project is a key component of the Heritage Action Zone programme with Historic England.

## **Parkway**

- Planning Committee resolved to grant planning permission for 379 houses at land off
  Parkway on 15th April 2021. Given that the overall scheme can no longer deliver the benefits
  originally envisaged (improved connectivity between Fairstead and Hardwick) it is appropriate
  that we reconsider our position.
- To this end, a new planning application will be submitted for the development in accordance with the 2016 Local Plan policy E1.6 Allocation (Kings Lynn south of Parkway) site only.
- The Council remains strongly committed to the delivery of homes for local people, incorporating construction methods which reduce carbon emissions, encourage active travel and supporting the environment.

# **Meetings Attended** (via Teams Zoom and Youtube)

Portfolio Meetings,
Planning Committee
Planning Committee Sifting
Cabinet
Cabinet Siting
Planning Committee
Planning Site Visit
Cabinet Briefings

Full Council Various Meetings with Officers

West Norfolk Property Company West Norfolk Housing Company

Town Fund Board CNC

