

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

23 February 2022

**COUNCILLOR GRAHAM MIDDLETON –
CABINET MEMBER FOR BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT**

For the period January – February 2022

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Kings Lynn Mart 2022

Following Saturdays grand opening the Mart is well under way again for this year. Following 2021's unfortunate call off, the showman's guild have put together a fantastic 2 weeks of fun on the Tuesday Market Place again this year. I was honoured this year to read the proclamation, the 817th mart opening.

Major projects.

Over the last couple of weeks members had the chance to listen and engage to officers updating on our ongoing major projects. As stated at the 2 sessions these were put in place for updates and I do hope members found these helpful and had an opportunity for questions to be answered around the updates.

Hunstanton Coastal Community Team (CCT).

The coastal community team has been in progress for a number of years now in Hunstanton and it is felt it is time for a re fresh and re vamp. Following our successful learning from King's Lynn's town board I now wish to engage with Hunstanton's community to produce something similar. We have learnt in King's Lynn, with the ongoing success of the town's board, that government wish to see projects brought forward that encapsulate the vision and desire of the wider community outside of just local authorities. By re vamping the CCT to include a wider range and demographic, skills and knowledge I hope we can come up with a similar range of exciting projects and developments for the town.

Report to Council from Cllr Nockolds Heritage Champion

NCC commissioned 5 contemporary art works to form the Norfolk Way Art

Trail. The initiative is funded by the EXPERIENCE project from the European Regional Development fund through the Interegg France-England Programme. The Boal Quay cycle/pedestrian footpath area is the agreed location for the multi-sensory accessible art work that will engage local communities and inspire visitors to explore the area between October - March. After public consultation I attended an evaluation panel with our Tourism Manager. During two afternoons we had 4 pieces of artwork to judge and evaluate with a criteria which included Creative Placemaking, Accessibility, Sustainability, Community Engagement, Safety and Maintenance. The chosen artwork for Boal Quay area will be announced shortly.

At a recent KL & WN Area Museums Committee meeting members were informed of the partnership with N&N Festival which is linked to the Gardens exhibition and will be providing a new way to explore nature in King's Lynn. The new audio walk for winter named 'Lull' helps to explore how plants, animals and fungi survive the darkest months. The packs are available to purchase from Lynn Museum to download on to a smartphone. As mentioned in The Telegraph, the display of a number of the palisade timbers from the outer circle of Seahenge is being displayed at the British Museum until July 2022. The exhibition also covers loans from national museums across Europe, and is highlighting the Neolithic and Bronze Age of Britain, Ireland and NW Europe.

During Dec/Jan 322 pupils from Primary and 180 High School pupils visited Lynn Museum and Stories of Lynn as a joint visit with some schools linking with Kings Lynn Minster. The sessions included "Looking through the Ages" and "How we know About the Past".

The Kick the Dust project, funded through the National Lottery Heritage Fund and delivered in partnership with the YMCA at the Stories of Lynn and Lynn Museum has continued to engage extremely successfully with young people aged 11-25 throughout Covid period. Full report is on ModGov.

2 Meetings Attended and Meetings Scheduled

Cabinet sifting
BID meeting
Portfolio sessions
Cabinet
Portfolio session with various officers (throughout the month)
Towns board

Plus various meetings inline with my role as deputy leader and cabinet member.