

## CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

28 July 2016

### **COUNCILLOR BRIAN LONG – LEADER & CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT**

For the period June 2016 to 18<sup>th</sup> July 2016

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

##### **Local Green Points**

Following the launch of the Local Green Points reward scheme we have had nearly 3,000 people sign up to the scheme. The first personal rewards will shortly be announced, presently the area leading is “the Fens” however it is very close as can be seen from the table below:



The screenshot shows a 'LEADERBOARD' for 'COMMUNITY' points. It lists five communities with their total points and average points per person. At the bottom, there are buttons for 'GET INVOLVED!' and 'OPT IN TO ACTIVITIES'.

LEADERBOARD: COMMUNITY		INDIVIDUAL	YOU'VE EARN'T 0 POINTS FOR
COMMUNITY NAME	TOTAL POINTS	AVG PER PERSON	
1 WEST NORFOLK FENS	1,175,600	2,077	
2 SOUTHERN AND DOWNHAM MARKET	1,351,875	2,073	
3 KING'S LYNN AND SURROUNDINGS	1,507,975	2,060	
4 WEST NORFOLK CENTRAL	1,006,975	2,047	
5 NORTHERN AND HUNSTANTON	1,067,975	1,981	

##### **Air Quality**

New DEFRA Air Quality guidance has been issued. Significant changes include closer working together with the Director of Public Health who now has a clear role in the annual air quality report and air quality action plan. Discussions have started with Public Health how they are to be included in this ongoing work in this area. A new role is to help reduce levels of man-made PM2.5 across the Borough. We are not expected to monitor PM2.5 but the current action plan has several measures that could assist in reducing NO2 as well PM2.5 within the Air Quality Management Areas. This will be taken forward by the Air Quality Steering Group.

### **Contaminated Land**

The current Borough Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy is being reviewed and will be put forward for adoption in the near future. The Strategy has in the past been revised and updated as necessary. New DEFRA guidance was issued and this has now been incorporated in to the draft document.

### **Emergency Planning**

Staff with colleagues from the Environment Agency took part in the annual Crucial Crew event which was held at King's Lynn North Fire Station in late April. Nearly 1,000 children were seen during the weeklong event and they were encouraged to help prepare for civil emergencies by preparing an emergency box for their home in case they needed to be evacuated to a rest centre.

The new Flood Warning Leaflet 2016/17 has been developed jointly with the Environment Agency. Copies can be downloaded from the website <http://www.west-norfolk.gov.uk/pdf/Flood%20Warning%20Leaflet%202016.pdf>

Staff recently took part in a multi-agency exercise at RAF Marham. This was a live exercise that dealt with an emergency that required a multi-agency response on and off base. Officers provided technical and operation support to the emergency response.

### **Flood & Water Management**

Staff with colleagues from Environment Agency held three drop in sessions at Snettisham Beach, South Beach Heacham and North Beach Heacham in June to advise about the new funding model for local sea defences. Around 100 local residents and visitors stopped by to learn more about funding the ongoing sea defences work. A further multi-agency drop in session is to be held in Hunstanton at the Spinney on 3rd August 2016.

Further work has recently been completed to the Hunstanton Sea Defences. Core drilling at 19 locations along the promenade have been completed. This work was carried out following a ground penetrating radar survey last year which indicated potential voids under the promenade. The core drilling found no voids and no repairs work was required.

## **2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.**

### **LGA Conference**

As outlined in my meetings attended I attended the LGA Annual Conference, this year in Bournemouth. Arrival on the Evening of Monday 4<sup>th</sup>. Saw all Norfolk Councils attend a meal, which was good for Leaders and Chief Officers to meet socially and discuss ongoing subjects, the main topic of which was Devolution. This continued as a main theme throughout the plenary sessions and speakers right through the conference, including former

Secretary Of State Greg Clark and even Billy Bragg.

Other sessions included how we tackle the growing cost of Social Care, which included Norfolk County Council Director Harold Bodmer in his role as President of ADASS. (Assc of Directors of Social Services).

Sessions of note included Councils commitment to the Armed Forces Covenant, Digital inclusion and Protecting our communities from Extremism. As is often the case exhibitors stands do provide interest between sessions and I had numerous discussions including subjects as diverse as investment strategy and recording and broadcasting meetings.

The LGA Launched their discussion paper entitled DEVO NEXT, I have one paper copy, but information can be found at [www.devonext.org](http://www.devonext.org)

### **3 Meetings Attended and Meetings Scheduled**

In addition to my usual Cabinet and Portfolio Meetings I have also attended the following:

LGA Annual Conference – Bournemouth.

Mars Foods – Kings Lynn Launch of New Plant.

Reception of the Hanseatic Ski Race.

Hanseatic Ski Race Event

Kings Lynn Festivals Service

Norfolk Coast Partnership Annual Conference – Sustainable Tourism

Local Green Points – Update

Briefing for Parish Councils on Devolution

Meeting with the Chairman of the Discovery Centre.

Meetings Scheduled (at the time of writing) include:

Meeting with Leader and Deputy Leader of the Labour Group

Meeting with the Independent Group

Meeting with Chair and VC of Panels.

Meetings with Each Portfolio Holder and Deputy Cabinet Member