

## Cabinet Member Report for Regeneration, Enterprise & Planning

Northampton Borough Council

Monday 22 January 2018



### Town Centre Operations

For the period April to November 2017 in the council's multi-storey car parks the Saturday free parking figures show 287,784 customers taking advantage of the offer and for the two hour free parking offer the figures show 690,986 customers taking advantage with the Mayorhold and Grosvenor being the most popular car parks.

Overall parking figures for the period 1 April – 30 November 2017 show 1,812,681 visitors using the council's multi-storey and surface car parks.

The footfall figures for November show 1,106,825 visitors, workers and shoppers in Abington Street and Market Square which is a fall of 3.7% in comparison with the same month in 2016. Overall footfall figures for April – November 2017 were 13,139,547 for Abington Street and Market Square

### Planning

#### Northampton Local Plan Part 2

The Planning Policy team is making good progress in assessing representations to the Sites Consultation carried out in October and November 2017. Comments have been received from 60 different respondents including developers, landowners, public bodies and members of the public. A summary of the representations and suggested responses will be reported to a future meeting of Cabinet.

#### Conservation Area Reviews

Great Billing & Great Houghton Conservation Area reviews have been subject to public consultation (now closed) and a report regarding the responses and their adoption is due to be considered by Cabinet on 7 February.

#### Tree Preservation Orders

Three new Tree Preservation Orders have been made in the following locations:

- Land to front of 27 Knights Court, Little Billing (23 Nov)
- 29 Abington Park Crescent (30 Nov)
- Land to west of Collingtree Village. (4 Dec)

## **Development Control**

The Planning application N/2017/1362 for the extension of the museum and creation of new shoe gallery, café and multi-functional space was approved by the Planning Committee on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2017.

The Outline planning application N/2017/0836 for the development of up to 50 dwellings at land to the rear of Hunsbury Park Primary School, Dayrell Road was approved in principle by the Planning Committee on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2017, subject to S106 agreement.

The Planning application N/2017/1029 for the development of 21 dwellings at Toms Close was approved by the Planning Committee on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2017.

The Planning application N/2017/1091 for the conversion and extension of the former council offices at 14 Fish Street for student accommodation, retail, restaurant and hot food takeaway was approved by the Planning Committee on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2017.

Planning permission N/2012/0909 for the development of 139 dwellings on land off Lancaster Way was issued, following the finalisation of a S106 agreement on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2017.

## **Performance**

Both Development Control and Building Control performance continue to achieve 100% in all the major measures.

## **Enterprise**

### **Business Incentive Scheme**

- 17 Businesses Supported to date 2017-18 financial year
- Creating 58 jobs
- Leveraged over £900,000 private sector investment

### **St James Mill Link Road**

A report goes to Cabinet on 17th January that:

Recommends the appointment of KierWSP (the County Council's approved highways contractor) to prepare and finalise the scheme design, inclusive of site clearance, intrusive site investigations, production of estimated costs, and to submit a planning application when appropriate.

Notes the informal consultation that has taken place with those business that may be directly affected by the proposed new link road and notes that further consultation will be undertaken as a part of the proposed planning application process.

Notes and welcomes the award of Local Growth Fund II and Growing Places Funding from SEMLEP, and the agreement to further support the scheme through the use of Enterprise Zone Business Rates Uplift..

Authorises the expenditure of up to £600,000 for site clearance, site investigations, design work and the purchase of a small parcel of land from Network Rail that the route of the proposed link road would traverse.

Approves appropriate provision for this scheme in the capital programme over the period 2017/18 – 2019/20 inclusive, and the allocation of £600,000 into the Capital Programme from the Development Pool.

Other recommendations to bring this into effect.

- Ground Investigation Surveys complete- Lab results due back end of January
- Monthly Project Board meetings have been arranged throughout 2018

### **Delapre Abbey**

- Roofing and external repairs to the Lodge are complete  
The construction of the new North Car Park was completed to programme.
- Remedial works internally to the abbey, including defective electrics, are underway as per programme

### **Queen Eleanor Cross**

Ongoing consultation with Heritage England concerning maintenance works / strategy.

### **Other repairs to Council Assets**

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|---------------------|---|
| Grosvenor MSCP:     | Continuation of concrete maintenance works. About to commence chloride testing of the concrete to the entrance and exit ramps to inform the maintenance strategy in the immediate future. |
| St Johns MSCP:      | Partial lighting replacement scheme with LED.   |
| Mayorhold MSCP:     | Emergency propping works to repair structural concrete and expansion joint failures.  |
| North Gate Bus Stn: | Extensive roof repairs relating to the pillows and to the air handling unit for failed inflation pump.  |
| Delapre:            | Pipework insulation in conjunction with Regen.  |
| Vulcan Works:       | Additions to the perimeter security.  |
| Guildhall:          | Report commissioned relating to the failed back-up generator exhaust system.  |

**Councillor Tim Hadland**  
**Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Enterprise & Planning**