PROJECT TITLE: North Walsham High Street Heritage Action Zone

Portfolio Holder	Cllr R Kershaw
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LIST OF ADDITIONAL PAPERS SUBMITTED

https://northnorfolkdistrictcouncil.mysocialpinpoint.co.uk/placemaking/placemaking-home/

1. Update on progress – give brief details

This is an extensive programme of interrelated projects the brief summary of progress given to the Project Board on 4 March 2022 is provided below

Cedars

- Procurement process completed
- Contractors, Medieval Masonry appointed
- Works commenced on site 21 February

Town Centre Placemaking

- Phase 1 Shambles/Church Approach contractors commenced work on site 28 February
- Comms plan implemented letters to residents, press coverage, social media, hoardings, launch on site with Member and funder videos
- Listed building consent approved for Shambles adjacent listed building wall improvements
- Proposed designs for bus interchange on New Road carpark being finalised.
 Partnership working with Norfolk County Council and North Walsham District Council. Work due to commence April 2022

Building Improvement Grant (BIG) Scheme

 Weekly meetings held with Hudson Architects, lead administrators for the BIG scheme

- Three BIG grant applications submitted and approved. Work due to commence on site shortly
- Comms produced to announce launch projects

Community Engagement

- Recent comms activity included bee colony removal at Cedars, BIG scheme, GPR survey (in conjunction with HE)
- Extensive comms plan for next stage of Place Making and Cedars contractor appointment
- Valentine's event received extensive positive engagement and feedback local community, businesses and press
- Ongoing engagement with variety of local community groups

Historic England Historic Area Assessment

Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) survey of Market Place cellars and tunnels completed and results due to be shared by Historic England in March

Heritage Research and Skills

- Historic England lunchtime 'Lunch and Talk' HS HAZ online Listing event held Tuesday 1 March. Included introduction to NW High Street HAZ, listing and historic buildings in the town.
- Signwriting Workshop for Paston College students being planned for summer 2022
- Photography Workshop for Paston College students being developed with HE Lead Photographer Summer 2022
- Digitisation of archive photographs and materials with training for volunteers and interpretation under consideration
- Local historical research into the Cedars and pubs in North Walsham to be used to tell the story of those buildings in the town

Cultural Programming

- Valentines Day activity involving local knitting group, North Walsham Junior School, businesses and market traders was successful
- Cultural Consortium appointed Programme Co-ordinator to co-ordinate the planned events being scheduled throughout 2022 to engage wide range of stakeholders, audiences and participants including young people, businesses, older people

Budget, issues and risks

- HE require expenditure budgeted in 2021-22 to be spent within the financial year forecast. This has been achieved.
- NW HSHAZ were invited to submit two applications for uplift of grant by Historic England. Both applications were approved and the additional funding has been spent in the current financial year as required as a condition of grant..
- Issues that continue to affect the construction sector continue to put the North Walsham HSHAZ projects at risk, in particular the construction projects including the Cedars restoration, North Walsham Town Centre Place making and the Building Improvement Grants scheme but appointment of contractors and mitigation against construction cost inflation is being addressed through purchase of materials utilising the additional uplift funding from Historic England.

- A mechanism for Capital Transfer to retain the Getting Building Fund funding for the Place Making project (New Anglia LEP) has been agreed with NA LEP/Suffolk County Council (accountable body) and NNDC S151 Officer and is being implemented
- Mitigation measures continue to be implemented and planned where possible including working in partnership with NCC and the contractors on place making scheme and with conservation architects and contractors on Cedars and BIG projects.
- 2. Project Plan Is there any changes to the delivery timeframe? NO (if Yes submit revised plan)
- 3. Risk are there any changes to the risk register? YES
 (if Yes submit risk register)
 Risk Register is reviewed and updated regularly but no significant changes to Risk since last meeting
- 4. Budget is the project on-budget and/or projected to be on budget? YES (if no please give details)