

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

20 December 2022

COUNCILLOR GAY- CABINET MEMBER FOR LEISURE, WELLBEING AND CULTURE.

For the period November to December 2022

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters - Leisure

Leisure Centres

October visits to the 6 facilities returned to over 41000 again. The Reef's memberships are currently over 1500, which is fantastic given that Splash in the year before closure averaged around 450-500 members.

Countryside

Practical management of all our sites is in full swing and is going well, and this has been supported brilliantly by our volunteer groups who this year have provided a combined total of 1344 hours work at Holt Country Park and 876 hours at Pretty Corner. It goes without saying that this time and effort is crucial to the ongoing delivery of quality parks and woodlands.

We have 3 different events planned for December – the first of this season's tree giveaways, Wreath Making Workshops and our 'Eco Elf Christmas Trails'. At the time of writing this the trails had attracted bookings from 162 children and 134 adults.

We will be entering a significant period of tree planting across our main sites, supporting our own management plans and the completion of the Council's 110,000 tree planting project.

Beaches

We held an incredibly positive meeting at Bacton Coastguard station regarding the concerns around jet ski use. Representatives from NNDC (North Norfolk District Council), the marine police, RNLI (local and national), coastguard and coastwatch were in attendance. Conversations continue ahead of next season.

Unfortunately, the water quality at three of our Blue Flag Beaches – East Runton, Mundesley and Sea Palling – has dropped from 'Excellent' to 'Good', which means that we are unable to apply for all six Blue Flags this year. We still do not know why this has happened but we will be working with all partner agencies to try to understand the reasons for the apparent sudden drop in the water quality at these beaches. This is a situation over which we have no

control but we will of course be applying for 3 Blue Flags and 3 Seaside Awards. Applications are due by January 6th.

Health and Wellbeing/Sports Development

Opening School Fund

We are still awaiting official sign off for the programme but we have created a rough timeline on the actions we will take. Sean Pasque is meeting to confirm the schools that NNDC will work with for the targeted fund. Once confirmed he will reach out to the schools to ask for some time to discuss the programme and how it would benefit them. We will then work with any who want to take it forward to complete a proposal.

Information will go out after this to schools for the open pot. The Leisure Service will work with any school which is seeking to apply for funding.

Active NoW

We have obtained approval for our proposal. Sean will now work with the providers to create Service Level Agreements and support them moving forward.

Big Norfolk Holiday Fund (BNHF)

The Localities Manager has arranged a meeting to discuss the BNHF at the North Norfolk Youth Advisory Board. This will give us insight into the provision wanted for the future by the young people of the District. There is also the possibility of working with the Board and funding them to create some provision as we move forward.

Everyone Active will be running sessions over the Christmas break at their centres.

Framework

The first draft is now complete and will be shared with Sam (Active Norfolk) and Colin (NNDC) for comment, with a view to finalise soon after.

Together Fund

Carers Norfolk and Everyone Active application has received the initial approval from the Active Norfolk team. This can now be uploaded to Sport England for approval- Funding £1500

Thornage Hall have been held up with their application but have told me it will be ready for next week.

We are working with Norfolk Cricket Board and NW High School on a bid to support local cricket – including the re-launching of the North Norfolk Indoor Cricket League

The Localities Officer is meeting with Victory Housing about funding the return of some seated exercise classes to their care home again.

Playing for Cake has received approval from Sport England for £2965

North Norfolk Health and Wellbeing Partnership- Mental health thematic workshop

The Localities Officer attended and contacted the Poppy Café at Holt and is going to visit in January to see how we can support them moving forward.

We continue to work in Partnership with North Norfolk Outdoor Fitness on plans for a Walking Festival in September 2023, and the team are working on plans for next year's triathlons and the Mammoth Marathon. Unfortunately, there is still no movement on the 3G project at NWTFC despite NNDC seeking clarification on the club's position. Cromer's potential 3G project is all ready to go subject to a successful capital bid for NNDC's share of the costs. Both Norfolk FA and The Football Foundation remain incredibly supportive of this.

Pier Pavilion

The Christmas show has now launched and will run through to the end of the year. Property Services have procured for the works to the bar area and toilets and this is scheduled to start on time in January, and will last for 6 weeks.

Markets

The team are currently considering the staffing of the markets particularly the Sheringham Saturday market after the resignation of the Markets Officer.

2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

As this report indicates, our Countryside team will be creating Christmas activities for children and they are progressing the Council's tree planting programme. In other parts of the service, funding is being secured for local sporting and fitness projects and planning is in hand for a series of larger events in 2023.

3 Meetings attended

Apart from attendance at a performance of the Christmas show at Cromer Pier, I have taken part in regularly scheduled briefings for this service.