

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

22 February 2023

COUNCILLOR VIRGINIA GAY - CABINET MEMBER FOR LEISURE, WELLBEING & CULTURE

For the period December 2022 to February 2023

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters - Culture

Sheringham Little Theatre – NNDC worked closely with Sheringham Little Theatre to develop a suitable scheme that would introduce energy/carbon saving measures to the building, whilst refurbishing parts of the building that were inefficient/becoming tired and addressing maintenance/repair issues. As a result, 'The Hub' cafe, foyer, box office and kitchen have been vastly improved, making them more comfortable and better suited to a wider range of uses. In the process, as much of the existing material as possible was retained/re-used and the building has become more energy efficient. This work has been promoted on our main NNDC channels and the Theatre staff/volunteers are delighted with the outcome.

Deep History Coast (DHC) – the Council's spare GoGo Mammoth has been installed at Sheringham Museum, augmenting their displays.

Orchestras Live (OL) – Our Partnership has added breadth to the Cultural Programme in North Walsham (being delivered alongside the High Street Heritage Action Zone). The arrangements for next year are being considered.

North Walsham High Street Heritage Action Zone Cultural Programme (CP) – Terrific feedback was received about the 'topical' production of Sleeping Beauty, performed by North Walsham People's Theatre with CP grant support. The budget is on track and expenditure agreed for a broad range of activities in 2023, including: pop-up craft workshops in a currently vacant shop; heritage interpretation linked to the wayfinding initiative; a young people's art gallery; mosaic design/installation; New Stages (play/pantomime), Paston Footprints, Orchestral concerts and music and dance projects. The CP Board has additional members from across local organisations and includes a member of the Youth Action Board.

2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

There will be a meeting with Norfolk Museums Service in the very near future to discuss North Norfolk's part in the County's provision. Sheringham Little Theatre's Hub will reopen to the public after a very short closure for the completion of its refurbishment; an appealing series of performances has been planned for the summer.

3 Meetings attended
<p>In addition to briefings, I have attended the following meetings. HAZ Project – Presentation on Wayfinding and Interpretation – 17/01/23 Norfolk Arts Executive – 02/02/23 Norfolk Records Committee – 03/02/23 Norfolk Museums Committee – 03/02/23 Sheringham Little Theatre Board Meeting – 08/02/23 Reopening of The Hub at Sheringham Little Theatre – 11/02/23</p>