

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

27 March 2024

COUNCILLOR WITHINGTON - CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY, LEISURE AND OUTREACH

For the period February to March 2024

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Leisure Contract

Everyone Active returned strong participation figures across the 5 leisure facilities in January and February, with 44844 and 45013 visits achieved.

The Fakenham Leisure and Sports Hub project at Fakenham is moving along quickly with a number of departmental workshops held for areas such as planning, building control, leisure and design, as well as a pre-procurement engagement day to try to understand the best routes to market.

Countryside

A significant amount of tree works has been completed in recent weeks by the team and our contractor. These were a combination of health and safety works and planned management works. The planned management works will now cease as we enter bird nesting season.

Three Easter themed events are planned over the school holidays, one at Sadlers Wood and two at Holt Country Park.

Beaches/RNLI

The RNLI season in North Norfolk has been reduced slightly to reflect the season seen elsewhere in the Country. The number of lifeguarded beaches remains the same, however at Sheringham West, Cromer East, Mundesley and Sea Palling the guards will start on 25th May instead of May 4th. All other beach lifeguard provision remains the same.

Keep Britain Tidy have indicated that Blue Flag results will be announced sometime between 25th April and 20th May.

Markets

All existing long term traders have received their renewal letters for the coming year (starting in April) and the vast majority have now been returned. We have also received a number of new trader requests (8 at time of writing) which are being looked at. Encouragingly a number of these are off the back of the Christmas themed market which we organised in December. The Sheringham Wednesday market returns from April 3rd.

The team are currently exploring options around Cromer market.

A seasonal markets and foreshore inspector has been appointed to help manage the peak period.

Physical Activity Development

Our two entry level super sprint Triathlon events are now registered with British Triathlon, Victory on 30th June and Reef 6th October. A maximum of 125 entries are available in each event.

Year 3 of the Opening Schools Fund has recently been evaluated and we are pleased to say that 6 schools from North Norfolk have been awarded funding. They will share a pot of around £45k.

Big Norfolk Holiday Fund returns at Easter with the usual good number of providers in North Norfolk. Sean will visit five of these over the course of the fortnight to audit their provision and ensure the necessary outcomes are being achieved.

Cromer 3G continues to progress well with the appointed contractor (SIS) now regularly visiting site to fine tune design and carry out extra surveys. We are moving towards the end of stage 4 but this is the longest of the whole process.

Pier Pavilion Theatre

8 concerts were provided in February and 16 in March. Sales remain strong with year on year comparisons for each of the areas as follows:

Tickets sold YTD

- Summer Seaside Spectacular 63% up on 2023 to date
- Concerts 87% up
- Christmas Show up 141%
- Hires down 15%

3 Meetings attended (across all Portfolio Areas)

Carbon Literacy Training
Norfolk Museums Service
Fakenham First
Coastal Health and Wellbeing
Sheringham Little Theatre
The Belfry Arts Centre
Seal Of Approval
Norfolk Arts forum Executive Committee
NN Health and Wellbeing Partnership x3
Integrated Care Partnership
ICB Health and Wellbeing Board
LGA Tourism and Culture conference
Coastal Forum

West Wood Care home
Norfolk and Suffolk culture Board
Sheringham Museum
Age Friendly Community
NNHWP Quarterly Chairs meeting
Social Value Engineering
UKSPF Partnership meeting
Healthy Ageing Alliance
NNHWP Elderly people working group
Experience Sheringham
RNLI 200 years Gala Dinner
SPLENDID Research project
SharePoint Training ICB
Community Connectors
FLASH