CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

25 September 2019

COUNCILLOR G HAYMAN - CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMERCIALISATION AND ASSETS

For the period August to September 2019.

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Public convenience improvement programme - Refurbishment works have now been completed at Walcott, Bacton and Lushers Passage in Sheringham. Planning consents and building control have been granted for the remaining schemes (New Road – North Walsham, Stearmans Yard – Wells-next-the-Sea and Bridge Street – Fakenham) and the tender documents ready to go. The designs are however currently being reviewed to ensure that all options for improving and making the most out of these assets have been considered.

The scheme is currently within the £600k budget originally approved and the tender prices will be monitored against the budget forecasts for the remaining works once received.

Cromer office roof works – the works to the glulam beams and roof glazing at the main administrative office in Cromer continue to progress well and the scaffolding to the southern elevation of the west wing has now been removed. The works commenced back in December and are scheduled to run for approximately 60 weeks with the project programme currently running on time despite some challenging weather conditions.

North Norfolk Information Centre (NNIC) improvements – Many Members will be aware of the funding offer received from the Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE) to refurbish the NNIC, to include a discovery centre to showcase the Deep History Coast through static and digital interactions. In order to provide welfare facilities for the staff it was decided to reconfigure the spacious toilets to accommodate a small kitchenette and breakout area. In addition, in early 2019, it was agreed to include a Changing Places facility as part of the refurbishment. The toilets will remain open until 23 September. For the duration of the works, which are expected to last 8 weeks, the information service will be located in Merchants Place in Cromer. Signposting will show clear directions to the Information Centre and alternative toilet facilities. It is anticipated the new facility will reopen at the end of November. The Market will remain on the Meadow Car Park site every Friday for the duration.

Pier works – the substructure works continue to progress. The theatre roof works are now complete and the barrel vaults will now be addressed. The theatre stage floor works have also completed. The works anticipated to continue for the remainder of the year.

2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

Holt, Grove Lane – following the completion of the improvement works undertaken on the building by Fleur Developments a visit for Members is in the process of being arranged to be supported by a press release to support the improvement works undertaken.

Leases, licences, acquisitions and disposals – the current case load in respect of the Estates team continues to be reviewed to ensure that all pending property transactions provide best value for the Council and consider and take advantage of improved use of assets wherever possible.

3 Meetings attended

Nothing further to report at the present time.