

## **CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL**

**November 2020**

### **COUNCILLOR A FITCH- TILLET - CABINET MEMBER FOR COAST**

For the period 12<sup>th</sup> September 2020 to 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020

#### **1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.**

##### **Overstrand:**

- Health and safety inspections following gales at Overstrand raised issues with access points resulting in repairs to handrails, further work is planned to beach access steps .

##### **Happisburgh:**

- The entrance the Happisburgh car park is now nearing the cliff. This was a foreseen event when it was constructed during the 2010 Pathfinder scheme. The car park is managed by Happisburgh Parish Council. NNDC has highlighted to the Parish Council that now would be a good time to begin to consider options for roll back of the car park. The CPE team are offering advice to assist the Parish Council in developing an appropriate and affordable way forward.
- As a result of the storms in September, the lower portion of the Happisburgh ramp was lost, although initially able to remain open, due to health and safety concerns the ramp was closed. It reopened on the 9 November and will be kept under observation with action taken accordingly.

##### **Bacton-Ostend:**

- The gales at the end of September created significant windblown sand on the Walcott and Bacton frontage.
- Windblown sand was an anticipated risk of the Sandscaping project and was considered in the development, design and specification of the scheme with measures considered to reduce the risk.
- Research during development suggests that the risk of windblown sand is at its greatest in the first 18 months following construction.
- A contingency was included in the scheme to assist and this is being utilised in this instance.
- Actions have been taken by the project as goodwill gestures to assist with the impact of windblown sand.

##### **Coastal Supplementary Planning Document**

- The CPE team are supporting planning teams from NNDC, GYBC, ESC and the Broads Authority in the develop of a Coastal Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) to assist planning officers and developers with coastal developments requiring planning consent. The Scope was open for consultation and responses received are now being considered.

##### **Sandscaping**

- Sediment monitoring has continued and initial analysis received suggests the scheme is performing as anticipated.
- The scheme has won or been nominated for a number of awards including winning the British Construction Industries Award, Climate Resilient Project of the Year.

## **2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.**

- The team have attended the national EA/Defra webinars on the Innovation Resilience Fund which aims to offer 25 projects around £6M each to take forward Resilient Places approaches across fluvial, pluvial, tidal flood risk and coastal erosion for the next 6 years. The prospectus for this fund is will be imminently published. In preparation the team are developing potential approaches to the bid.
- The Shoreline Management Refresh process is progressing and additional guidance has now been released. The SMPs for the North Norfolk coastal frontage have completed technical 'health checks' and the team will consider these alongside other statutory bodies as to what actions may need to be taken forward. This is not a SMP review, but seeks to ensure that SMPs still reflect the current legislative, knowledge and physical position.
- A Sandscaping Monitoring Committee meeting will be held in November with project partners to discuss monitoring and analysis to date and plan future monitoring activities.

## **3 Meetings attended**

- Karen Thomas, Head of CPE represented Coastal LA's at the Virtual Flood and Coast 2020 conference. Her presentation on Coastal Communities and our adaptation needs was shared in a Plenary session with the Defra Minister Rebecca Pow, EA Chairman Sir James Bevan and Natural England Chairman Tony Juniper. Karen ensured coastal issues were on a level pegging with wider fluvial and pluvial matters and both the Minister and EA made reference to our presentation and recognised the work we are doing at CPE which is fantastic

### **Cllr Angie Fitch-Tillett meetings Attended:**

All Virtual Cabinet, Overview and Scrutiny, Development Committee, Planning Policy Working Party and Ward Parish Council Meetings (3 by email)

September:

- LGA Coastal SIG
- Planning White Paper Briefing

October: (All virtual unless specified)

- Site Meeting with Norfolk County Highways at Trimmingham
- SCAPE briefing from Balfour Beatty
- Site Meeting - Woodlands Holiday Park
- Flood and Coast National Conference
- Norfolk Coast Partnership Re-Opening The Coast Task & Finish Group

- Regional Flood and Coastal Committee
- Bi-weekly briefings
- Trimmingham Adaptation Meeting
- Broads Internal Drainage Board
- New Planning System Briefing
- Mental Awareness Presentation
- British Construction Industry Awards