

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

16 December 2020

COUNCILLOR J TOYE - CABINET MEMBER FOR PLANNING & ENFORCEMENT

For the period November 2020 to December 2020

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Development Management Performance

Our latest figures for speed of decision are truncated by the suspension of the planning applications software in mid-November. No decisions will be issued until the UNiform software goes live on 7 December.

When reported in November performance figures stood at 82.76% of major decisions and 89.90% of none major applications being within time. Both figures significantly exceed national targets, I will be liaising with officers to ensure that any backlogs are dealt with and performance maintained.

Planning Policy & neighbourhood planning

Local Plan Review

The Planning Policy and Built Heritage Working Party (PPBH) continue to work remotely and include public engagement via the Council's YouTube channel.

At the December meeting PPBH considered

- Site Allocations in North Walsham including progress on the large western extension of the town
- Reconsideration of site allocations in Mundesley and Blakeney
- Revised policies responding to last year's consultation covering design, AONB and landscape protection, green infrastructure, and the protection of wildlife habitats.
- Publication of an updated Brownfield Register

Work is also underway in relation to the remaining evidence documents which will be required to submit the Plan for examination including a Heritage Impact Assessment, work on infrastructure delivery, and a final Habitat Regulation Assessment. The team are working to produce a final version of the Plan for consultation in the first half of 2022.

Major projects with Conservation, Design & Landscape

Development Committee in December considered proposals for Outline planning application for up to 950 dwellings (Use Class C3), employment development (Use Classes B1/B2/B8), a primary school and children's nursery (Use Class D1), a hotel (Use Class C1), local retail (Use Classes A1/A3/A4/A5) and associated public open space and infrastructure; Land north of Rudham Stile Lane & east of Water Moor Lane, Fakenham, Norfolk, NR21 9QU, for The Master Fellows & Scholars of Trinity College Cambridge. 900 homes at Fakenham.

At that meeting proposals for a further 67 homes at Hempstead Road, Holt were also considered.

The Planning Policy and Built Heritage Working Party will have considered adoption of the revised Landscape Character Assessment for North Norfolk. This document defines local landscape character and is a key tool within the applications process.

Building Control

Applications remain at around 80% submissions of last year's levels, recruitment to an additional technical trainee role has been successful. Our Building Surveyor Peter Wearmouth retired this month, I wish Peter a good retirement and give my thanks for his service to the Council.

Software Introduction

I am pleased to update that at the time of compiling this report that the following had been completed with regard to the installation of the new planning software system:

- The IT project group have successfully completed the extraction of our data from the Acolaid system
- Further, configuration of the Land charges module has taken place the mapping systems have been transferred between the old and new systems.
- 436,000 documents have been returned from our software suppliers and are being loaded ready for go live;
- software suppliers are carrying out the data transformation activities required to put data records into the new system.
- officer training has been completed for Digital Mailroom, Enforcement, Planning Processing Unit, Development Management and Major Projects teams, Land charges and Street naming / numbering, Building Control, Conservation & Design.
- User manuals are nearing completion
- officer task lists are configured and tested
- Data testing will take place on the 2nd to the 4th December.

Enforcement

Arcady, Cley: demolition of dwelling – Appeal Hearing date 8 February; Mediation meeting 27 January.

High Kelling; Archery / air rifle: written representation format appeal confirmed, inspectors visit date further delayed from 1 December and remains to be established.

A new enforcement notice was served on 4 December at Land North Calthorpe Road, Erpingham: cease unauthorised occupancy and remove caravan / storage units

The Shannocks Hotel, Sheringham: Compulsory Purchase Order; Public Inquiry date set for 22 March 2020, ongoing negotiation regarding voluntary agreement with owners (timetable of works) to negate need for public inquiry. Balance of probability for agreement to be reached January. enforcement notices were served at

Staffing

Major Projects team Rob Parkinson has served Notice and will leave the team in January. I offer my appreciation to Rob for his work at NNDC and also best wishes for his new Role as Development Manager at Great Yarmouth. A recruitment campaign has begun; interviews are being held this month.

I am pleased to report recruitment to our Senior Officer Vacancy in Major Projects, Russel Stock will join the team in February.

2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

Planning Policy & Build Heritage Working Party – 18 January 2021

Development Committee – 14 January 2021

Development committee site inspection 17 December 2020

3 Meetings attended

Planning Policy & Build Heritage Working party – December 14

Development Committee – December 10

